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TEN GENERATIONS of the PHILLIPS FAMILY in AMERICA

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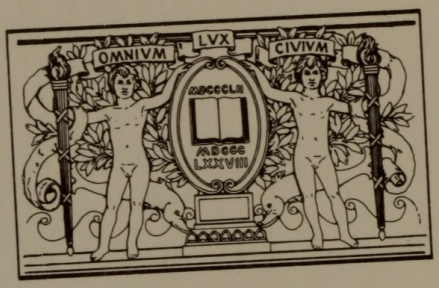

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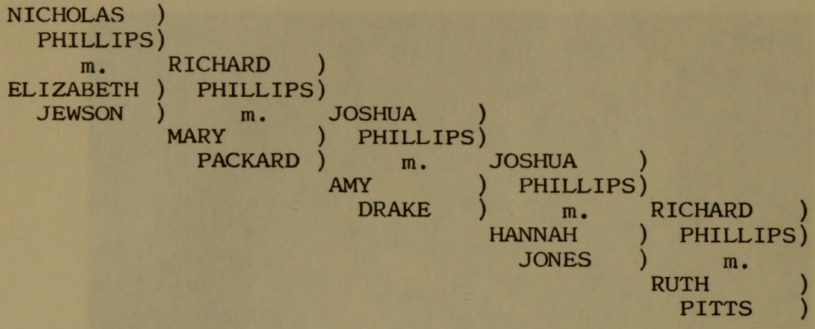
The Researcher and Author
Margaret M. Phillips
and her husband
Clayton G. Phillips,
one of the Tenth Generation



TEN

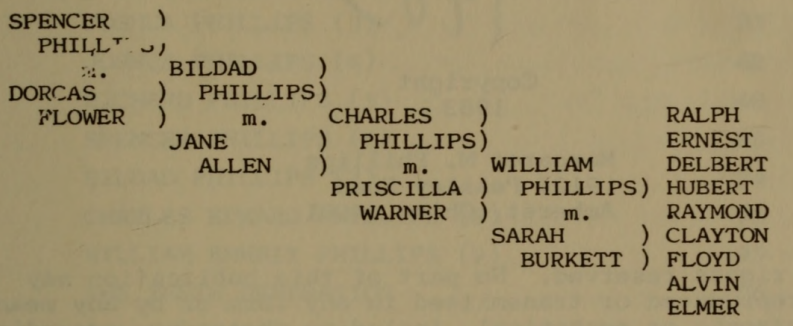
GENERATIONS

of the

PHILLIPS FAMILY

in

A M E R I C A



Dedicated to
my husband
Clayton George Phillips
with love

Margaret M. Phillips

CS71
.P555
1983

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1983

Margaret M. Phillips
9125 Peasley Road
Amherst, Ohio 44001

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Deacon Nicholas Phillips of Dedham and Weymouth, Mass. 1636 - 1672 by C. Arthur Phillips

Weymouth, Massachusetts, A New England Town
by Chester B. Kevitt

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

About 1970, my husband, Clayton G. Phillips, and I decided to drive to Michigan to see if we could locate his three Phillips cousins who lived in the area of Pine Knob, Oakland County. We first looked up the little church where Clate said he had attended services when he accompanied his father to the funeral of "Uncle Vet" (Sylvester) Phillips. We found the Sashabaw United Presbyterian Church on Maybee Road. There a young minister directed us to the Sashabaw Cemetery, adjacent to the church, where Bildad Phillips, Jane Allen Phillips and Huldah Phillips were buried, as well as others of the Phillips family. He took us into the church which was built about 1855. The original oil lamp sconces were on the walls and an oil lamp chandelier hung from the ceiling. It was charming. The minister put us in touch with the three daughters of Clarence Phillips: Ethel, now Mrs. Theodore Cleveland; Mary, Mrs. Lloyd Ingamells; and Edith, Mrs. Stuart Longmuir. The Longmuirs had a son Bruce, married to Mary Beth Crane, and two grandchildren, Jeanne and Steven. The members of these families were most gracious, and Clate and the Phillips girls renewed and reviewed old family memories and brought the family history up to date. We are happy that we have been able to continue this pleasant relationship.

Clate's father had often mentioned a book, in the possession of the Pine Knob family, which gave much information concerning early Phillipses in America. After some searching, the volume was discovered:

Geneology of the Ellis Family, by E. R. Ellis, M. D., 1888. The Appendix of that book contains much information on the Phillips family, and started us on our project of a genealogy of Clate's family line, which he very much wanted to leave for the new generations of his family.

I owe much to Ethel Phillips Cleveland who shared her research into the Phillips family with me. Her application for membership in the D.A.R. gave her access to material from them. She also researched records in the Detroit Public Library. It was she who found that Spencer Phillips, Sr., our Revolutionary War veteran, was buried in Norwalk, Huron County, Ohio, just a few miles from our home. She has made available to us much family history about the descendants of Bildad Phillips.

At the Western Reserve Historical Society in Cleveland, Ohio, I came upon an exceptionally concise little volume of the history of the first four generations of our Phillipses who settled in America, Deacon Nicholas Phillips 1636 - 1672, by C. Arthur Phillips, 1976. It has been a fine help in checking my research.

There is much material available in public records, especially in the State of Massachusetts, if one takes the time to sift through it. We have been amazed at the amount of records those early settlers found time to keep. Though some of it is incomplete it does give us a good picture of life in those early days.

The First Census of the United States was taken in 1790. There was a census taken each ten years there

after. The information was somewhat limited in the early years, but became more complete as it was developed, especially since the 1850 census. The following quote from the introduction to the First Census seems a fitting tribute to the founders of our nation.

"The schedules of 1790 form a unique inheritance for the Nation since they represent for each of the states concerned a complete list of the heads of families in the United States at the time of the adoption of the Constitution. The framers were the statesmen and leaders of thought, but those whose names appear upon the Schedules of the First Census were in general the plain citizens who by their conduct in war and peace made the Constitution possible and by their intelligence and self-restraint put it into successful operation."

A good amount of the research material we needed was in various libraries, from the rich resources of the Western Reserve Historical Society Library to the small local institutions. We must give thanks to them for making their resources available to us. Invariably we met with courteous and generous help from the staffs.

Family members have made available many records, and oral history, and a lot of helpful encouragement.

Of course, the continued interest of my husband in the endeavor has made it a pleasure and a challenge to put together this story of his forebears so that the younger members of the family may know

something of their beginnings. It has provided us with another opportunity to share in a mutually satisfying undertaking.

It is our fond hope that the children of these ten generations of Phillipses will want to keep the records of the family current and will add to this genealogical record as time goes on.

Margaret Minch Phillips
Brownhelm Township
Lorain County, Ohio
June, 1983

FOREWORD

The years when Charles I was king of England (1625-1649) was a time of great dissention between the King and Parliament over who had the authority to make the laws, especially as they affected taxation. The King imposed the Episcopalian religion on the people, but many of the members of Parliament were of the Puritan persuasion, denouncing the pomp and politics of the state church and preferring instead a more simple and temperate way of life.

The Pilgrims had left England for Holland early in the century, in the reign of James I, to achieve religious freedom and had finally founded the Plymouth Colony in the New World in 1620. Now the Puritans, who were as deeply religious as the Pilgrims, but also far more practical, brought to New England a different kind of settler. The Massachusetts Bay Company was granted a Royal Charter to settle in America. These were not adventurers, seeking fortunes in the New World. They were men of strong religious principles, determined to find a place where they could follow their own consciences in matters both of religion and of government.

The first migrants left Yarmouth, England, in 1630 in four ships, with John Winthrop as governor. Thirteen more ships sailed in 1630, carrying a thousand Puritans to the New World in that year. The Puritans who came to Massachusetts were required to bring with them a year's provisions. Apparently some "poore, godly" persons were supplied with their year's provisions by missionary-minded people in England. Though

the settlements were made up largely of those seeking religious freedom, there were, of course, others who came to the new world for adventure and personal gain. Even the religious leaders could not always agree on matters of education and church discipline. So both civil and church courts were kept busy setting up new laws and regulations. Only a "freeman" was entitled to vote in those days. He was a person who owned land and was a member in good standing in the church, with full rights as a citizen in the town. It is truly amazing to discover how well they kept records, conducted both civil and church affairs, worked together to establish themselves in a rugged land.

Boston was the first settlement established by the Puritans in 1630. Later several other towns were settled, among them Weymouth in 1634 and Dedham in 1635. It is in these two towns that Nicholas Phillips, the first of our line of the Phillips family in America, established his residence.

Why Nicholas and his wife Elizabeth chose to come to America is not known. However, two of his brothers were already in the new land, one of whom, Henry, was interested in becoming a minister. Nicholas himself was assigned church duties, both in Dedham and in Weymouth, and became a deacon in the church. So one may assume that he was one of those who came to America to achieve religious freedom. At least the records that are available to us show him to have been an industrious, law abiding citizen, interested in doing his share to make life in the new land a good one for the colonists.

Reviewing the records that show us who was where, through the past three hundred and fifty years, makes one stop and think of the great decisions and sacrifices these brave people made, especially in the first two hundred years. These pioneers who were setting out from England for the New World and those who left established settlements along the eastern coast of America to go into the wilderness of western Massachusetts and New York state and on to Ohio, Michigan and Indiana, in all probability would never again see the loved ones they were leaving. For security, for family strength, with shared aspirations, some formed small bands and set forth with other family members or with friends. However, all must have left behind homes and family who were dear to them. Would they have made the same decisions if they had known what hardships and frustrations they were about to face? It is said that some of the earliest settlers who came from Europe moved into caves or dug-outs for shelter. In this beautiful new land was an abundance of fine trees for lumber, but their only tool was a broad-axe! Much of the land was fertile and could grow good crops; but it had first to be cleared.

Those who left the eastern settlements for good land to the west had to carry with them all supplies, or live off the land. Imagine taking a young family, in a wagon, with all your wordly goods and food and starting out from New York state, for instance, heading for Michigan! You possibly could make twenty miles a day at the very most. Probably some of your friends or relatives were going with you. But how many were you leaving behind?

Entrance to Watch House Hill Cemetery in Weymouth, Mass. showing the Phillips plot to the right of the drive under the small evergreen trees.

NICHOLAS PHILLIPS (1)

NICHOLAS PHILLIPS, the first of this Phillips family in the New World, was born in England in 1611. He married Elizabeth Jewson (or Jusson) in the Parish of Wendover, Buckinghamshire, England, in 1631. Elizabeth was the daughter of Richard Jusson and Elizabeth Kipping, whose marriage is also on record at Wendover, under date of October 29th, 1607.

Nicholas and Elizabeth came to Dedham (formerly Contentment!) Massachusetts in 1636. Two brothers of Nicholas also came to America -- Henry and Martin. Little is known of Martin except that he lived in Dedham the first few years, and then in Weymouth, where he owned land adjacent to his brother Nicholas. It is reported that he had no offspring. Henry was in New England at Watertown as early as 1629, and was among the earliest settlers of Dedham. He was made a Freeman of the Massachusetts Bay Colony at Dedham in 1638 and remained there for some years, eventually going to Boston.

Nicholas was granted land in Dedham in 1636. He was one of four men commissioned to fell the trees for a meeting house in 1637; and one of two "chosen to mowe, gather up and bring home thatch for ye meeting house 28 August 1638." Later Joseph Kingsbury and Nicholas Phillips were named for "Laying downe each a p'cell of grownd for a burial place, (and) are to have a good allowance of Grownd in some other place for ye same. As also ye Nicholas for a p'cell of grownd layd down at the Keye."

It was interesting to visit Dedham in the fall of

1982 and find that burial place, now a large cemetery. A small placque on the stone wall where the earliest graves are located reads:

The Burial Place

"This portion set apart in 1636, enlarged in 1638. It was the only burial place for nearly a century. Here were buried Allin, Adams, Belcher, Dexter and Haven, ministers of the Church, and Alleyne, Lusher, Dwight and Fisher with other founders of the town."

To stand in that old town and look from cemetery to "keye" and know that the earliest Phillips had walked this very place filled us with a certain awe.

At the town meeting held September 28, 1637, the three Phillips brothers are mentioned as present, as also was Abraham Shaw of later interest. Nicholas' name was in the town records as attending town meetings until 1639 when he moved to Weymouth, Massachusetts, a town about fifteen miles distant from Dedham. The following Bill of Sale, under date of August 1, 1639, states "Nicholas Phillips alienateth and granted unto John Allen Pastor and his heyers and assignes forever both his dwelling house and ye wholl portion of land . . . 12 acres together with two acres of Swampe. And also all his Right and clayme unto Fower acres of medowe." Later he sold another piece of land to his brother Henry.

Chamberlain, in his History of Weymouth, says of Nicholas and his family, "Phillips was a name well known among our ancient settlers and of very frequent occurrence upon its records. Its possessors stood high in town and church, and they have many

connections with the families of the first five generations of settlers."

C. Arthur Phillips adds, "the early settlers in Weymouth, which was incorporated in 1635, were almost entirely farmers . . . . When Nicholas Phillips arrived there some time in 1640 he obtained land on and in the neighborhood of a creek which emptied into the Weymouth River. In a record of land owners dated 1663, Nicholas is listed as having had thirteen acres and lot #3 in the first division, and in a later division, he had 39 acres and lot #24. The creek on which his land was located came to be called Phillips Creek. His brother Martin had three and a half acres and one acre of salt marsh adjacent to Nicholas. Others in the same area were John King and Joseph Shaw, whose families were closely related to Nicholas in that period."

A further quote from C. Arthur Phillips's book should be included here: "There was another Nicholas Phillips in Mass., who frequently has been confused with the deacon . . . . This one also lived in Weymouth for a time, but removed to Boston about 1650. He was a butcher and his wife was Hannah Salter. So far as is known the two were not related."

May 13, 1640, "Nicho ffilipes" was admitted as Freeman to the Massachusetts Bay Colony, recognizing him as a citizen with full rights in the town and in the church. There are entries in the town records of his being named appraiser of two different estates. He was called Deacon Phillips 8 February 1660, but may have held that position in the First Congregational Church for some years prior to that. A Deacon was a

THE

VVHOLE
BOOKE OF PSALMES
Faithfully
TRANSLATED *into* ENGLISH
Metre.

Whereunto is prefixed a diſcourſe declaring not only the lawfullnes, but alſo the neceſſity of the heavenly Ordinance of ſinging Scripture Pſalmes in the Churches of God.

Coll. III.

Let the word of God dwell plenteouſly in you, in all wiſdome, teaching and exhorting one another in Pſalmes, Himnes, and ſpirituall Songs, ſinging to the Lord with grace in your hearts.

Iames V.

If any be afflicted, let him pray, and if any be merry let him ſing pſalmes.

Imprinted
1640

PSALME XXIII

23 *A* Pſalme of David.

THe Lord to mee a ſhepheard is,
want therefore ſhall not I.

2 Hee in the folds of tender-graſſe,
doth cauſe mee downe to lie:
To waters calme me gently leads
3 Reſtore my ſoule doth hee:
he doth in paths of righteouſnes:
for his names ſake leade mee.
4 Yea though in valley of deaths ſhade
I walk, none ill I'le feare:
becauſe thou art with mee, thy rod,
and ſtaffe my comfort are.
5 For mee a table thou haſt ſpread,
in preſence of my foes:
thou doſt annoynt my head with oyle,
my cup it over-flowes.
6 Goodnes & mercy ſurely ſhall
all my dayes follow mee:
and in the Lords houſe I ſhall dwell
ſo long as dayes ſhall bee.

church officer or subordinate minister; one of his duties was to line out, or read aloud a line or two of a hymn at a time, as an aid to congregational singing when hymnbooks were scarce. The following bit from Chester B. Kevitt's Weymouth, A New England Town is interesting: "Religious music in the early church services consisted of a few so-called tunes set to The Whole Booke of Psalmes Faithfully Translated into English Metre commonly known as the Bay Psalm Book. The psalms were not sung as hymns are today with melody, but were sung in sing-song fashion using different cadences. These cadences or rhythms had distinguishing names such as 'York', 'Cambridge', 'Windsor', ... A tune setter, usually one of the church deacons, was chosen to conduct this part of the service. The custom was known as 'lining' or 'deaconing' the psalms. . . . The introduction of musical notes, known as singing 'by the rule' was opposed by many who claimed 'that the old way was good enough for our fathers', etc. . . . . The custom of 'deaconing' the lines died hard."

Nicholas died in Weymouth between June 2, 1671, when he made his will and September 6, 1672, when it was probated. In his will (see page 25) his eldest son, Richard, was named executor of his estate. Elizabeth, his wife, is not mentioned in the will, so it must be assumed she died some time prior to her husband's death.

The Meeting Houses in the Massachusetts Bay Colony were usually built on high hills. The hills were kept clear of trees, and the meeting house served the early settlers as a safe haven from Indian attacks.

They were not consecrated as churches, but were also used for town meetings, as forts, as courthouses, etc. Those along the sea coast became beacons for sailors. The Meeting House in Weymouth was built on Watch House Hill, probably about 1636. It served not only as Meeting House but also as the Church. The cemetery was laid out around the Meeting House on the slope of the hill. That early portion is somewhat overgrown in 1982, but many of the old stones are still there, some no longer legible, some obviously gone entirely. In the Phillips plot, to the right of the drive as you enter the old cemetery we found the headstones of Nicholas Phillips (1644-1751), grandson of Nicholas (1), and his wife, Mary (Randall) Phillips (1667-1749), as well as headstones and footstones for his son, Nicholas (1697-1744), and wife, Judith Savil (1727/8-1766). Samuel Badlam who married a Phillips daughter was buried there, too. There is little doubt that some of the broken stones probably marked graves of Nicholas (1), Richard (2), Joshua, one of the sons of Nicholas (1), and Joshua (3), son of Richard (2), as well as their wives and other early family members.

Nicholas and Elizabeth had nine children.

A. Elizabeth, born in England in 1633, died young.

B. RICHARD (2), the second person in the genealogical line, was born in 1635, probably in England, or possibly on shipboard when his parents came to America. See page 29 for further information on Richard.

C. Alice was born in Dedham in 1636, married John Shaw,

Gravestone of Nicholas Phillips, grandson of Nicholas (1), in Watch House Hill Cemetery, Weymouth, Mass.

Gravestone of Mary Randall Phillips, wife of Nicholas

son of Abraham Shaw, in 1652, and was living in 1671, when her father made his will. They had eleven children.

D. Caleb, born Nov. 22, 1638, probably died before 1671.

E. Experience, born May 8, 1641, married Samuel King (c 1636-1711), son of John and Mary King, Sep. 17, 1658. She died January 21, 1717/8. They, too, were parents of eleven children.

F. Joshua, born 1647, was called "second son" in his father's will. He died at Weymouth, between 10 April and 2 May, 1679. He served in King Philip's War in 1675 - 1676 under Capt. William Turner on the Connecticut River. This was a savage war in which the Indians under their chief, King Philip, plundered many towns. Some settlers were massacred and many Indians killed. Joshua made his will 10 April 1679, calling himself "32 years of age or thereabouts". In it he mentioned his sisters, Experience King and Hannah White, as well as his cousin Elizabeth Poole, with equal shares with his brothers and sisters. And to Joseph Poole he willed three pounds for taking care of him during his illness, possibly a result of his military service. No wife or child is mentioned, so it must be assumed that he never married.

G. Hannah, born Nov. 25, 1652, married Lt. Ebenezer White (1640-1703) in March of 1671. One of their nine children graduated from Harvard College in 1692 and became an ordained minister.

H. Benjamin, born in 1654, was a ships carpenter. He married Anna ? in 1679 and they were admitted to

First Church, in Charlestown, April 3, 1681. He died Feb. 13, 1687 in middle age.

I. Abigail, who was born in 1660 was not married when her father died. She married John Blanchard of Weymouth in 1684. She died September 19, 1724. Abigail and John, too, were parents of nine children.

The following two documents are the will of Nicholas Phillips (1), and the inventory of his estate:

The last will and testament of Nicholas Phillips of Weymouth in New England Aged sixty years or theirabout having a verie weake body but doe yet retain my understanding and memory in som Competent measure. First I doe will give and bequeath my soull and body to god that gave it and doe order that my body be dessently burried and my funerall expenses wholy discharged and all my debts honestly paid and then all the rest of my worly goods I doe dispose of as followeth. I doe give and bequeath unto my Eldest Son Richard Phillips all that parsell of marsh and Swamp that he Doth hire of me and is now in his own possession which is by estimation Six Acres more or less. And I doe give all my wearing apparell unto my three sons that is Richard, Joshua and Benjamin Phillips to be equally divided between them as the overseers of this my will shall see good. And I doe give and bequeath unto my Second Son Joshuah Phillips Six pound sterling out of my whole estate. And I doe give and bequeath unto my third Son, Benjamin Phillips Six pound sterling out of my whole estate. And I doe give and bequeath unto my oldest Daughter Alice Shaw ten pound Sterling out of my whole estate. And I doe give and bequeath all the rest of my Estate boath house, land, Catle, books, mony and whatsoever else it be that is my own unto my six younger Children to be equaly Divided between them all: that is to say Joshuah Phillips, Benjamin Phillips, Alice Shaw, Experience King, Hanah White and Abigail Phillips. And that their may be an Equal Division so that every one of them may have their due proportion if my Children that be of Lawful Age and the overseers in the behalfe of them that are under Age can agree

among themselves to all their satisfactions then that shall stand firm of my will provided it be don within two months after my Decease but if the Children and the overseers Shall not agree within the time above Expressed then my will is that the overseers shall take it into their own hands and make my Children such proportions as themselves shall Judg Equall. And if they cannot find out that which is Equall they shall have full power to sell all or as much of my Estate as they shall see meet that my will may be fulfilled Equaly to all my six children for my Eldest son shall keep his portion by himself and my will is that if their be a sale that som of my children shall have the offer of it if they can Answer Engagements without wrong to the rest: and if it be sold my will is that the twenty and two pound which is given to the three above expressed shall be paid to each of them one halfe in mony and the other halfe in goods: and I doe make my son Richard Phillips my whole Executor and I doe alow him due sattisffaction for any trouble he Shall be att And I doe desire my loving Brother Henry Phillips and my Loving friends Thomas Dyar and Jonas Humphrey to be the overseers to see this my will performed and I doe make void all my former wills and testaments of this nature and here unto I have set my hand and seal the Second Day of June [this line not legible on the photocopy except the last three words] seventy and one.

The mark of NP

Nicholas Phillips

Sealed and Witnessed in the presents of us
the marks of Elizabeth X Shaw

Thomas X Dyar Junir

Present John Leverett Esqr.
Dept. Gov.
Edward King Esqr.
Assist.

Elizabeth Shaw made oath that she having set her hand to this will as a witness was present on the day of the date thereof and saw Nicholas Phillips Set his mark & Seale thereto & publish it as his last will & Testament & that when he so did he was of a disposing mind to the best of her knowl-

edge. this they done October 3d 1672.
As Attests Isaac Addington Clerk

Thomas Dyar junior at the same time took his oath as is above said.
As Attests Isaac Addington Clerk

Entered & Recorded by Isaac Addington Clerk

A true inventory of the estate of Nicholas Phillips of Weymouth deceased taken the 7th Day of September 1672 by William Torrey, Thomas Dyer and Jonas Howard, as (L = pound; S = shilling; P = pence)

	L	S	P
Wearing apparel	04	16	00
14 books in Leather & 7 pamphlotts. . .	02	02	00
two iron Andirons	00	13	00
one little Brass Pott	00	07	00
one brass Kettle.	00	14	00
one warming Pan	00	04	06
one Brass morter & little Brass Pan . .	00	05	00
two Pewter Candle ?	00	01	06
two Pewter Bassons.	00	04	06
two platters of Pewter	00	02	06
two Pewter Chamber Potts	00	04	00
one little Case & 3 glass bottles . . .	00	03	00
one Iron Barr	00	09	00
one ? & Spade Hoe & Poashook . . .	00	05	00
one ? handsaw & billhook	00	05	00
in old iron & an old ?	00	04	00
one coverlet & a black rug	01	10	00
one bed blanket	00	06	00
two feather pillows two flo bol ? . . .	00	10	00
two pillow poor & some old feathers . .	00	05	00
one old Bed & bed	00	04	00
in Korsir 4 yds 3 quarters	01	12	00
cotton & lining 4 yds 3 quarters . .	01	10	00
one bed cover	00	10	00
one great chest	00	10	00
one little chest half Butt & table . .	00	10	00
one ? & Barrell	00	05	00
in corn 5 bushels poass 5 pork	00	16	06
in two shoops	00	12	00
Things forgotten	00	05	00
Housing, garden orchard & Low about to qunatitie of 15 Acres).	60	10	00
Meadow 5 Acres more or less	60	00	00

	L	S	P
Up land & wood land 21 Acres	42	00	00
on Island about 3 Acres	06	00	00
Land lying in the woods	06	00	00
Land now in possession of his oldest son to quantitie of 6 Acres)	50	00	00
in money	10	30	00
Sum Total	157	11	06

William Torrey Jonas Howard
Thomas Dyer

Present

John Leverett Esq.
Dept. Gov.
Edward E. Esq.

Richard Phillips made oath that this paper contains a just & true Inventory of the whole Estate of his late father Nicholas Phillips to the best of his knowledge & that when he knows more he will uncover the same thus done Octob^{r} 3, 1672.

As attests Isaac Addington Cler(k)

RICHARD PHILLIPS (2)

RICHARD PHILLIPS was the second of our genealogical line of Phillips. He was born in England, or possibly on shipboard on the way to America, in 1635. His parents were Nicholas (1) and Elizabeth Jewson Phillips of Wendover, Buckinghamshire, England. For the first five years of his life he resided in Dedham, Massachusetts. In 1640 he went with his parents to Weymouth, Mass., and lived there the rest of his life.

He married (1st) Mary Packard in 1656/7. She was the daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Packard, who came to America in the ship Diligent from Wymondham, Norfolk, England in 1638. (History of Weymouth, Mass., by G. W. Chamberlain).

Richard, like his father, was a husbandman, and the two were closely associated over the years. He acquired considerable land in the colony at Weymouth, including land on Grape Island which he shared with six others. He was elected one of two constables in the town in 1673. He was made a Freeman of the Massachusetts Bay Colony on May 8, 1678. He served the community variously over the years as Clerk of the Market (having to do with weights and measures), and as a member of the Committee to decide whether to repair the "Old Meeting House" or to replace it. (It was replaced.) In 1683 when he was elected one of seven Selectmen of the town, he was designated "Sergeant." In 1690 he was "Ensign" and that title was on the inventory of his estate.

In the town meeting 1692/93 Capt. Holbrook, Lt. Nash. Lt. White (husband of Richard's sister, Hannah), Ensign Phillips (this was Richard (2), John Shaw (husband of

Richard's sister, Alice), Edward Bate, Lt. Whitmarsh, were chosen to seat persons.

These quotes from Mr. Kevitt's book Weymouth, a New England Town enlighten us on the business of seating persons in the church.

"One of the most important duties and perhaps the hardest to satisfactorily carry out was designating the seat in which each person should sit during the service. The Puritans were great respectors of persons, particularly those of position and wealth, and they went to great lengths to assure that people of quality were assigned seats commensurate with their position.

"Seat assignments were generally made by a committee of influential men who were appointed by the church."

He quotes an ordinance passed by one New England church "When the comety have Seatid the meeting-house every person that is Seated shall set in those seats or pay Five shillings Pir day for every day they set out of There seats in a Disorderly Manner to advance themselves Higher in the meeting-house."

Some time after the death of his first wife, Mary, Richard married (2nd) Elizabeth Edson, widow of John Kingman of Weymouth. She is mentioned in her husband's will. (See page 33)

Richard died in November, 1695, at age fifty-nine, naming his sons Nicholas and Samuel executors of his estate.

Richard and Mary had ten children:

A. Mary, born Dec. 6, 1657, died in infancy.

B. A son, born Dec. 7, 1657, died in infancy.

C. Caleb, the eldest son, was born in 1659. He married

Elizabeth Polley October 16, 1681. He died before 1695, the date of his father's will, and his wife received his inheritance. They lived in Roxbury. Caleb and Elizabeth had five children.

D. Mary was born May 24, 1660, and died soon.

E. Mary was born May 24, 1661. This Mary was the only daughter who outlived her parents. She married (1st) Jonas Humphrey (1655-1689) in 1683, and after his death, married (2nd)Peter Newcomb . She died in May 1738. Mary and Jonas had three children; Mary and Peter had one.

F. JOSHUA (3), third in the line of our genealogy, was born May 10, 1662. (See page 35 for further information on Joshua.)

G. Nicholas was born March 30, 1664, and died March 11, 1751, aged 87. In 1688 he married Mary Randall (1668-1748/9), daughter of John Randall and Mercy Aldrich, and granddaughter of Robert Randall who came from Wendover, Buckinghamshire, England, whence came his grandfather Nicholas (1). The gravestones of this man and his wife were those we found in the Weymouth Cemetery in 1982. (See pages 22 and 23.) They were the parents of four children.

H. Elizabeth was born Nov. 27, 1665.) both died

I. Richard was born Oct. 29, 1667.) before 1695.

J. Samuel, born May 7, 1670, was named in his father's will as one of the executors. The other was Samuel's brother Nicholas. However, the inventory was presented by Nicholas alone, indicating that Samuel may have died soon after his father. There is no further record of him.

K. John was born in 1672. There is no record of his birth in Weymouth, but in Richard's will he is named as "my son John Phillips" and there are other records attesting to the date of his birth. He lived a very colorful life. In 1690, at age 18, he joined with others from Weymouth in an expedition by the British against the French at Quebec. That year, also, he married Elizabeth Drake (1670-1748), sister of Amy who was Joshua (3) Phillips' wife. They had two children born in Weymouth, and then moved to Bristol County where John had purchased land in 1694. Here their other seven children were born. Around this area the town of Easton was established, with John serving as Moderator at the Annual Town Meeting, Town Clerk, Selectman, etc. He also gave land toward the calling of a minister to preach the gospel. John's wife, Elizabeth, died April 19, 1748. He married Bridget Southworth April 10, 1749. "Capten John Phillips died November 14, 1760, (in Easton) he being the first Capten that ever bore a Commish in the town of Easton" -- Easton Town Records. He was eighty-eight years old. Bridget died March 17, 1764.

John and Elizabeth had seven sons and two daughters. Jane, born July 1, 1709, married Richard Ellis October 6, 1728. Thomas, born January 25, 1712, married Katherine Liscome January 22, 1735/6. These two families started the settlement of Ashfield, Mass. in 1743. (For further details on this see page 40 .)

The Will of Richard Phillips (2)

In the name of God Amen. I Richard Phillips of Weymouth in the County of Suffolk in New England being sick & weak of body, but in sound and Disposing memory, do make this my last will & testament in manner & form following, first & principaly I Resign my Soul to God my Creator, hoping through the merits of my blessed Saviour to obtain pardon & Remission of all my Sins; and my body I Commit to the Earth whence it was taken, to be decently buried by the Discretion of my Executors herin after named, And as for the worldly Goods & Estate the Lord hath lent me, I dispose thereof as follows first I will that my just Debts & funeral Expenses be honestly paid by my Executors or Executor herein after named. Firstly my will is that my beloved wife Elizabeth according to the Contract made before marriage with her the sum of ten pounds in or as money, & likewise the benefit imprimis of all my housing & lands in Weymouth for the term of one whole year after my Decease, & further until the aforesaid ten pounds be paid her according to Contract by my Executors or Executor also I give unto my said wife all my Pewter that is marked with R E P Also I give unto her all my sheep & lambs, Excepting Two of the best Ewes the one of which Ewes I give unto my Grandson Caleb Phillips, and the other Ewe, to my wives Daughter Susanna Kingman.

2ly I will & bequeath unto my Eldest Son Caleb Phillips if he be now living & if by the will of God he be taken away by Death, then I give to his widow Elizabeth Phillips now Dwelling in Roxbury a Double share of my housing & lands in Weymouth viz^{t} when my wife Elizabeth her term is Expired, seven pounds of the Double portion I have paid unto my Son Caleb Phillips already, which seven pounds must be deducted out of the Double Share before Given. And for the Remaynder of my Estate of Housing lands & movables of what quality or quantity soever it be I Give unto my 3 Sons & Two Daughters every one an Equall Share viz^{t} Nicholas Phillips, Samuel Phillips, John Phillips, my Daughter Mary Humphrey & my Daughter-in-law Amy Phillips. And for the Andirons which my father Packer gave me I give them unto my son John Phillips.

I Give unto my Three Sons, Nicholas Phillips, Samuel Phillips & John Phillips all my wearing apparel to be Equally Divided betwixt them each a third part, And likewise I give unto my said Son Nicholas & Samuel both of them Three pounds a piece for their trouble & time, to see that this my will be in all points performed to be paid by themselves out of my proper Estate.

And lastly I doe Constitute & appoint my Two Sons Nicholas and Samuel Phillips to be the Executors of this my last will & testament, & do Charge them to see that this my last will be in all points performed in Witness whereof I the said Richard Phillips Doe here unto set my hand & seal this 27th Day of October Anno Domini 1695.

RICERD PHELLIPES (seal)

Signed Sealed & Published in the presence of us
John Bicknell Nathaniel fford William Chard

By the Honorable William Stoughton Esqr.
Judge of Probate

The above written will being presented by Nicholas Phillips one of ye Executors therein named. John Bicknell & Nathaniel fford two of the Witnesses thereto personally appearing, made oath that they were present and did see the within named Richard Phillips signe and seale, and heard him publish the within written Instrument to be his last Will & Testament he being of sound disposing mind to their best discerning. And that they subscribed their names as Witnesses thereto in the said Testators presence.

Boston November 19th 1695 Wm Stoughton

JOSHUA PHILLIPS (3)

JOSHUA PHILLIPS, the third Phillips in the line, was born 10 May, 1662, son of Richard (2) and Mary Packard Phillips of Weymouth. He married Amy Drake, daughter of Thomas and Jane Holbrook Drake of Weymouth, in 1686. They had two children, each named for a parent:

A. Amy, born 10 April 1687, married Abraham Shaw in 1716, in Dighton, Mass. He was active in Dighton civic affairs.

B. JOSHUA (4), fourth in the Phillips line, was born 18 April 1689. See page 42 for further information on Joshua (4).

In 1690 Joshua (3) is among those from Weymouth who joined an expedition by the British against the French at Quebec. (See description of that expedition on page 37.) Joshua died in January 1690, at the age of twenty-eight; could it have been from injuries or disease as a result of that service? The Ellis Geneology quotes a line from the Company records: "Wee arrived in Cape pann, Nov. the 22; Several dyed." His widow, Amy, and her father, Thomas Drake, a sawyer, were granted the administration of the estate. The inventory was as follows:

Know all men by these presents that Mrs. Aymy Phillips, widow, and Thomas Drake of Weymouth in the County of Suffolke Sawyor, are holden and stand firmly bound unto me Adam Winthrop treasurer of the County of Suffolke in the full sum of eighty pounds in currency money of New England to be paid unto him said Adam Winthrop his successor &/or assigns to the true payment whereof we do bind ourselves, our heirs, etc. jointly and severally firmely by these presents sealed with our seals.
Dated January 27th 1690.

The condition of this obligation is such that where as administration to ye estate of Joshua Philips of Weymouth deceased dying intestate was granted unto the above bound Aymee Philips his relict widow. If therefore the said Aymee Philips do well and truly administer said estate according to law and bring in a just and true inventory of the said deceased's estate and shall be accountable to ye County Court for Suffolk when called thereunto then this obligation to be voyd and of none effect, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of us
John Allen
Joseph Webb

Signum
Aymee X Phillips

Signum
Thomas X Drake

The 23 of January 1690

We whose names are under written being desired to price the estate of Joshua Philips deceased: we have priced as followeth:

	pound	shilling	pence
One coat and one remnant of cloth	01	00	00
A gun and sword and a stale	01	14	00
Five basins, 2 platters and 6 porringers and a quart pot and a dram cup	01	03	00
3 trays trenchers and a ?	00	06	00
2 books a table and 2 boxes	01	00	00
2 Chests 4 glass bottles a paile and a ?	00	09	00
A cradle	00	04	00
A fether bed and furniture belonging to him	05	00	00
2 pairs of sheets and 2 pileboxes (?)	01	10	00
6 napkins and table cloth	00	12	00
1 iron pot and citle and pot hooks and hangers	00	15	00
Corn pork and beefe and a spinning whele	01	10	00
1 cow 2 mares 2 sheep and 1 little pig	05	03	00
a piece of land by the sawmill containing 10 acres	20	00	00
Half a common lot in the high division 8 acres	02	00	00
a pondering tub (?) with other lumber	01	00	00

(Signatures for Inventory on preceding page:)

John Holbrook

James Naish

Boston July 27, 1690

Aymee Philips made oath in county court that the above written contains a just inventory of the estate of her late husband Joshua Philips of Weymouth deceased, dying intestate so farre as it come to her knowledge and that when she knows of more she will cause it to be added.

Attests Joseph Webb

Four years later, Widow Amy received Joshua's share of his father's estate.

"In the year 1690 Capt. Ephraim Hunt, of Weymouth, was sent out, by order of Government, as commander of a company of men selected from Weymouth and vicinity, in an expedition against the Canadas, in a contest between the English and French, commonly called King William's War. This war commenced in the year 1690 and terminated in 1697. It was attended with many disastrous consequences to the American Colonies. An infuriated horde of savage Indians were let loose upon our scattered and defenceless population. The company under the command of Capt. Hunt composed a part of an expedition fitted out by the united colonies of New York, Connecticut and Massachusetts, for the reduction of Montreal and Quebec, then in the hands of the French. A combination of unfortunate circumstances, however, defeated the design, and the expedition, after encountering numerous hardships and disasters, returned without accomplishing their object. The success of the expedition had been so confidently anticipated that no

express provision had been made for the payment of the troops. Massachusetts, in the low state of her finances, issued bills of credit as a substitute for money; and in the year 1736, after a delay of more than forty-six years, redeemed those bills, at least so far as the aforesaid company was concerned, by granting them, their heirs or legal representatives, a tract of land within the limits of this town (originally Huntstown; later Ashfield, Mass. -- M.P.)."--from Geneology of the Ellis Family by E. R. Ellis, M. D. Ashfield, Mass. was in the County of Hampshire, west of the Connecticut River and the village of Deerfield. It is now in Franklin County.

In the list of the trained soldiers under the command of Captain Ephraim Hunt are:

Left. Ebenezer White, husband of Hannah Phillips White, Richard's (2) sister.

Sam'l King, husband of Experience Phillips King, Richard's (2) sister.

Richard Phillips (2), father of John and Joshua (3), and brother of Hannah and Experience.

John Phillips, later known as Captain John, son of Richard (2) and brother of Joshua (3).

Joshua Phillips (3), brother of John and son of Richard (2)

"In the conditions of the grant express provision was made for the early settlement of the town, the erection of a meeting-house, the settlement of a learned and orthodox minister, and the cause of common schools. By a Committee of General Court sixty-three lots, called Rights, containing from fifty to

sixty-three acres each, according to the quality of the land, were set off and numbered, to be disposed of as follows: One right to be given to the first settled minister, one right for the use of the ministry, and one right for the use of common schools. The remaining sixty rights were to be divided by lot among the officers and privates of the aforesaid company, their heirs or legal representatives. The grantees--or Proprietors as they were henceforth called--held their first meeting at Weymouth, where most of them resided, March 13, 1738, and on the 24th of July 1739, they met again at the same place and drew lots for their respective rights, set off for them by government in this town.

"The early settlement of the town being a desirable object with the proprietors, inasmuch as it would tend to enhance the value of the property they now owned in it, they passed a resolve, May 28, 1741, that a bounty of five pounds should be paid to each of the first ten of their number who should take actual possession of their respective rights, build a house and bring under cultivation six acres of land individually. How many of those men who endured the toils and privations of the Canada expedition lived to receive their bounty of land does not appear; but the lapse of forty-six years from the expiration of that expedition, very probably had carried the greater part of them to that 'bourn from whence no traveler returns,' and their heirs alone remained to realize the tardy remuneration which should have long before fallen to those who had sustained the burden and heat of that perilous day. Nor does it

appear from the records that any of the original proprietors ever settled upon their lands in person. Their rights were sold to others of a more adventurous spirit, from time to time as they had opportunity. In the meantime taxes began to accumulate upon them, and many of them were parted with for a little more than was sufficient to meet the demands of the collector." --from Geneology of the Ellis Family.

In the list of the original proprietors in 1730 are:

Thomas White, the son of Ebenezer, who had died in 1703.

John King, the son of Sam'l, who had died Dec. 24, 1711.

Capt. John Phillips, now 58 years of age, who drew Lot #6 for himself, and Lot 13 for Richard (2), his father who had died in 1695.

Joshua Phillips. The Joshua Phillips who drew Lot #56 must have been Joshua (4), the son of the soldier Joshua (3) who died in 1690.

Some time between 1743 and 1745 Capt. John Phillips' daughter Jane and her husband Richard Ellis settled in Huntstown (later called Ashfield), Mass. They were the first family to settle there. Thomas Phillips, Sr. youngest son of Captain John, and his wife, Katharine Liscome, followed the Ellises to Huntstown in 1745. They were the second family to establish residence there. It is assumed that these families took up their father's "rights" to that land. "Of all the families of Ashfield, whether in early or later times, the Phillipses were the most numerous. In the settlement of

the town in 1745, Thomas Phillips, son of Captain John Phillips, of Easton, Mass. was the second settler, his brother-in-law Richard Ellis being the first."--Geneology of the Ellis Family.

"Other settlers came in from time to time, from different quarters. A number of families joined them from the southern part of Connecticut, so that by the year 1754 they numbered from ten to fifteen families and nearly one hundred souls."--Geneology of the Ellis Family.

JOSHUA PHILLIPS (4)

JOSHUA PHILLIPS, fourth in the genealogical line, the son of Joshua (3) and Amy Drake Phillips, and grandson of Richard (2), was born April 19, 1689, at Weymouth. He was only a year old when his father died. Apparently he and his mother and sister, Amy, continued to live in Weymouth until they moved to Dighton, Mass. in 1713. It is not known why he moved to Dighton, in Bristol County. Dighton was established as a town separate from Taunton in 1712, and may have been attractive to a young man of twenty-four years interested in establishing himself. "Under date of 1713, there is a deed of Abraham Shaw to the widow Amma (Amy) Phillips and her son Joshua. In 1722 another deed of Abraham Shaw and wife Amy to brother-in-law Joshua Phillips, mentioning their father, Joshua Phillips late of Weymouth, and their mother, Amy Hopkins (or perhaps Hoskins)" -- Boston Transcript 11/16/1927.

The 1722 deed shows that Amy Drake Phillips must have married a Hopkins or Haskins in the intervening years. The History of Dighton, Mass., by Helen H. Lane shows the names of "Hopkins" or "Haskins" in town records about that time.

The vital records of Dighton state that Joshua married Hannah Jones November 21, 1715, "both of Dighton." Hannah was the daughter of Thomas Jones who was active in working toward having Dighton established as a town separate from Taunton. In his will, dated 1724, Thomas Jones mentions three sons, Thomas, Ebenezer and Caleb, who was blind, along

with daughters Hannah, Priscilla, Naomi and Dorcas. His wife is not mentioned, so it must be assumed she died at an earlier date.

Young Amy Phillips married Abraham Shaw of Dighton the year after her brother married Hannah Jones. He served the town of Dighton in many capacities: Selectman, Treasurer, Deacon, etc. He was, no doubt, a grandson or great-grandson of the Abraham Shaw who was present at the September 28, 1637 Town Meeting in Dedham, Mass., along with the three Phillips brothers.

Joshua (4) and Hannah Jones Phillips were the parents of nine children:

A. Samuel, date of birth unknown. 23 June 1745 he married Phebe Hathaway. He served the town as Constable in 1761, and as selectman 1796 - 1805.

B. Lydia, birth date unknown, was, according to the division of her father's estate, the eldest daughter. She married Constant Simmons 12 April 1739. Mr. Simmons was very active in Dighton town affairs. His name appears often in the town records.

C. Joshua, date of birth unknown, married Elizabeth Pitts December 6, 1746. Elizabeth was a daughter of Captain Henry Pitts, and sister of Ruth Pitts, who married Joshua Phillips' brother, Richard. She must have died before 1765 as her share of her father's estate was left to her heirs. We find little information regarding this Joshua. However, in Lane's History of Dighton, Mass. there is the story of Capt. Peter Pitts and sons, along with several Dighton families who moved west and settled around Richmond and Bristol, New York about 1790.

Among those mentioned is Joshua Phillips. Whether this was Joshua, son of Joshua (4), is not clear. It could have been a younger Phillips, named for his father or grandfather.

D. A child, b. unknown; d. unknown.

E. RICHARD (5), the fifth Phillips in this genealogical line, was born 2 September 1728. See page 48 for more detailed information on Richard (5).

F. Abiezer (or Abiather) was born 13 November 1730, and married Ruth Hathaway 8 June 1754. He served as Town Clerk of Dighton 1764-1783 and 1790-1806, a total of 35 years. The following quote from the History of Dighton, Mass. is interesting: "The record of the adjourned meeting on August third was written by the newly elected clerk Abiezer Phillips, and shows him to have been a reporter of no mean ability . . . . Abiezer was accurate, capable, but never able to hide his approval or disapproval. This makes his records entertaining as well as instructive. And on one occasion, this caused the town to pass a vote of condemnation, bidding him to stick to his reporting without comment!" He also served as selectman, Assessor, treasurer and Representative to the General Court from Dighton. He was active during the Revolutionary War recruiting soldiers and raising money to pay them. A further quote from Helen Lane in her History of Dighton: "and in June 1778 Abiezer Phillips, who is really a hero of this writer, faithfully reported a meeting that evidently pleased him greatly. This is from the warrant: 'Article 21y To choose by Vote a proper

person in order that the selectmen may recommend to the Legislative Body of this State for a Justice of the Peace in this Town.' David Whitmarsh was chosen Moderator of the meeting. Then Abiezer reports: 'Then by Vote by a Grate Majority Abiezer Phillips was chosen according to the Request in the above Warrant. Then this Meeting was Dissolved.

Attest Abiezer Phillips, Town Clerk'

"Well he deserved this honor!"

On our trip to Massachusetts in 1982, the writer called on Miss Lane and enjoyed a brief chat with her. She is a retired school teacher, very much respected in Dighton. She was alert and showed a pleasant sense of humor in spite of the fact that she was apparently confined to a chair and is now about ninety years of age. It was a privilege to visit with her.

G. Hannah, born 1 March 1735, married a Mr. Dwelly. We have no further information on Hannah.

H. Jane, born May 1736. She would have been twelve years old when her father died, and since she is not mentioned in the distribution of her father's estate, it is probable that she preceded him in death.

I. Mercy was born 25 June 1737. She inherited a portion of her father's land. In 1756 there is an entry in the Dighton town records as follows: "In June, plans for laying out two roads, both 30 feet wide, were laid before the people. In both cases, the land was to be given free by the owners . . . Land was given . . . for the second by Samuel Shaw, Samuel Phillips (her brother), William Paul and Marcy

Phillips." In 1758 she married her second cousin, Phillip Phillips, of Ashfield, Mass., who was also a great-grandchild of Richard (2), and the son of Thomas Sr. who was the son of Capt. John Phillips. They lived in Ashfield and were the parents of thirteen children -- eleven boys and two girls. "Each of the sons were over six feet tall, and formed a platoon or military company, in which the father took great pride in exhibiting at trainings and on other public occasions."--Geneology of the Ellis Family Capt. Phillip Phillips was very active in the affairs of Ashfield, serving in many capacities. He died in Ashfield 10 August 1800. Mercy died there 15 October 1815. They are buried in the Plain Cemetery in Ashfield, where we located their headstones while on a visit to Ashfield about 1976.

Little is known about Joshua (4) and his wife, Hannah Jones, but they must have been thrifty and enterprising as he had accumulated considerable property and real estate at the time of his death at Dighton 23 October 1748, at age 59. Samuel, Lydia and Joshua were already married. Richard was twenty years old, and married in December of that year. The widow was left with three children: Abiezer who was eighteen; Hannah, thirteen; and Mercy, eleven. Inasmuch as Joshua (4) had left no will, the Probate Judge, the Hon. George Leonard Esquire, appointed a committee of five men to draw up an inventory of his holdings and a division of his real estate among the seven surviving children. Samuel was named administrator. He received

the eldest son's double share, valued at one thousand pounds. The other six each received a share valued at five hundred pounds. "Reserving for ye use of ye widow of ye deceased ye Great Room in his late dwelling house during ye time she remains his widow, she having acquitted her thirds in ye estate & imprimis to Samuel Phillips ye eldest son of ye said Joshua Phillips deceased."

It is interesting to note that following the settlement of the estate, Lydia and her husband, Constant Simmons, sold her land to Samuel; Abiezer sold a parcel to Samuel and bought a parcel from Richard; Richard sold one parcel to Abiezer and another to Samuel; Joshua sold land to Samuel; and Samuel sold to Abiezer. Whether the two youngest daughters disposed of their inheritance is not known, but since Mercy married and moved to Ashfield, it is probable that she, too, sold her share, leaving Samuel and Abiezer to farm their father's acres.

RICHARD PHILLIPS (5)

RICHARD PHILLIPS was the fifth Phillips in this genealogical line. The vital records of Dighton read "Richard Phillips, the son of Joshua Phillips by Hannah his wife was born September ye 28 anno 1728." In the vital records of Dighton under date of 19 November 1748, Richard Phillips and Ruth Pitts entered their intent of marriage; and on December 1, 1748, they were married. Ruth was the daughter of Capt. Henry Pitts of Dighton and his wife Hannah Cary. Henry was the brother of Ebenezer Pitts of Dighton. Both Henry and Ebenezer were active in early Dighton civic affairs, having settled there as early as 1708. Capt. Henry Pitts died in 1765. His wife was administratrix of the estate. A tract of land was divided between his five daughters: Ruth, wife of Richard Phillips; Hannah Leonard; Mary Briggs, widow; Ann Briggs, widow; and the heirs of Elizabeth, wife of Joshua Phillips, who preceded her father in death. Henry Pitts, Jr., only son of Capt. Henry Pitts was deeded the homestead by his father in 1759 as his share of the estate. Hannah, the mother, received the personal estate and quitted her widow's "thirds." The inventory of this estate was taken by Elnathan Walker, Constant Simmons (the brother-in-law of Richard Phillips) and Abiezer Phillips (brother of Richard). The division of the estate was drawn up by Ezra Richmond, Elnathan Walker and Constant Simmons.

There is record of the birth of two children to Richard and Ruth Pitts Phillips in Dighton:

A. Vespasian, born 5 March 1749.

B. Elener, born 22 September 1751.

Richard's father died in 1748, leaving no will, and his land was divided among his children with Hannah, their mother, being executrix, as mentioned in the chapter on Joshua (4).

In February and March of 1753 Richard sold the land he had inherited from his father's estate to his brothers, Samuel and Abiezer. It must be assumed that at that time he and his family moved to Ashfield, Mass. Whether or not he took possession of the Proprietor's Right to his grandfather's land there is not known. It is certain that he and Ruth moved to Ashfield, however, as, when she was willed the share in her father's estate in 1765, they sold that share in 1766 to two of her cousins. The following is a quote from the transfer of the deed. "Know all men by these presents that we Richard Phillips of Ashfield in ye County of Hampshire in ye Province of Massachusetts Bay in New England, husbandman, and Ruth his wife, which said Ruth was one of the daughters of Capt. Henry Pitts, late of Dighton, deceased testate, in consideration of one hundred good Spanish milled dollars* to us in hand paid by Ebenezer Pitts Junior and Seth Pitts Gentn, both of Taunton in said County of Bristol in said Province paid

* "after the currency of the Colony had been regulated in 1749 two kinds of money were in circulation. A shilling of the new kind was worth three shillings of the old tenor. Both kinds were now redeemed by the Spanish milled dollar. After March 1750 all debts were payable in coined silver under a law which made a shilling a sixth part of the Spanish milled dollar or sixteen and two-thirds cents. The colonial pound equalled $3.33 1/3 in silver. Money reckoning continued on this basis for several generations."--From History of Dighton, Mass.

in equal halves: to wit the said Ebenezer fifty dollars and the said Seth fifty dollars the receipt whereof we do hereby acknowledge . . . ." This deed establishes the fact that Richard and Ruth did take up residence in Ashfield.

The following quotation, written by Rev. Thomas Shepard, in the Geneology of the Ellis Family gives some indication of the trials of this small settlement of Huntstown (Ashfield) during the early days (1750 - 1760). "This little colony of immigrants, thus removed from their friends and from civilized society, in the midst of a mountainous wilderness, with scarcely any means of intercourse with those they had left behind, were permitted, under the watchful hand of Providence, to pursue their labors with comfortable success, subjected, of course, to a thousand self-denials incident to the pioneers of the forest . . . . For a number of years they had no other means to grind their corn than by a mill turned by a horse. They had also to contend with bad roads, with rapid streams without the convenience of bridges, and with deep snows in the winter with out the means of maintaining a beaten path. But all these inconveniences could be endured so long as they were secure from the attacks of the merciless savages, that still prowled around the infant settlements of our country . . . . Such security and quietness, however, they were not long permitted to enjoy. The year 1754 was memorable for the breaking out of fresh hostilities between the French and the English. This war let loose again the Indians upon the defenceless frontier settlements of our colonies. During the month of June of

this year a party of men at work near Rice's fort, in the upper part of Charlemont, was attacked by a body of Indians, and two of their number were killed and two taken prisoners. The tidings of this Indian massacre spread abroad and quickly reached the settlement in Huntstown and occasioned great alarm. Being few in number, and with small means of defence, they had no other alternative than to fly back to the older settlements, or to expose their wives and children to the tomahawk and scalping-knife of the savage foe . . . . They abandoned their houses, improvements, stores, etc., except such as could be transported on horseback, and set off, one and all, for the older settlements on Connecticut River . . . . This sudden abandonment of their possessions, after having just gotten into a condition of comfortable living, could not have been otherwise than a sore trial to the first settlers of this town. It must have involved them in very considerable loss of property, besides being a very serious disappointment to their plans and prospects. But it appears to have been submitted to by them with that patient endurance and undaunted fortitude for which the men of that perilous period were so eminently distinguished.

"According to the best information within my reach, the time during which the settlers were absent from their possessions was between two and three years. It is not unlikely, however, that during this period individuals might have visited this place; but they did not presume to return with their families until the time specified. After the return of the refugees to

their possessions in Huntstown, the war still continuing, their first object was to erect a fort for their common defense . . . . The area inclosed by the fort was a square piece of ground containing 81 square rods. It was constructed of upright logs of sufficient thickness to be bullet proof, set three feet into the earth and rising twelve feet above. The inclosure had but one gate, opening to the south, which was always shut and strongly barred during the night. Within the fort stood the dwelling of Mr. Smith, which served as a garrison within which the settlers felt secure from attack during the night. On its roof was constructed, of logs, a tower of sufficient magnitude to contain six men with their arms. Portholes were so arranged in its sides as to afford its inmates a fair aim at their assailants without, while secure from their balls within.

"After remaining in this state for about one year, standing on their own defense--keeping watch by night, and laboring by day with their arms by their side--they solicited and obtained from the authorities of the colony a company of nine soldiers, under the command of a sergeant by the name of Allen, for their greater security. This guard arrived, under the general order of Col. Israel Williams, June, 1757. This company continued in the settlement until the close of the war, which was about two years from the time of their arrival." It was into this situation that Richard Phillips and his family came in 1753, or thereabouts. One reference says "among those who petitioned Gov. Shirley for a guard for Huntstown March 3, 1756, were Thomas Phillips and Richard Phillips."

Richard and Ruth Pitts Phillips had several more children, born in Ashfield, though the Vital Records of that town do not show their births. Rev. Shepard says in the Geneology of the Ellis Family "the records of the town previous to 1776 are very imperfectly preserved. There are remaining in the Town Clerk's office only a few separate scraps of paper bearing date prior to that year." In those turbulent times such records were probably neglected. However, other facts and oral family history lead us to conclude that some of these children were:

C. SPENCER (6), born 6 May 1755.

D. Pelatiah, born about 1756.

E. Sylvester, born 12 June 1758.

There may have been other children but we have been unable to identify them. We have not been successful in establishing the birth of any female children, other than Elener as previously mentioned.

"In the original grant of the Soldiers' Rights two of them were reserved for the support of a learned and orthodox ministry; and in 1751 a sum of money was raised by the proprietors to supply the settlement with preaching. Their meetings were held in the dwelling of Deacon Ebenezer Belding.

"The first regular church formed in the town was of the Baptist denomination. It was constituted July, 1761, consisting of nine members."--Geneology of the Ellis Family. Records of the Baptist Church in Ashfield show that Richard Phillips joined the church Nov. 2, 1766, and that he was baptised in October, 1766. Ruth Phillips joined the church October 19, 1766 and was baptised October 12, 1766.

"The assessors of taxable property in Ashfield in 1766 were Richard Phillips, Aaron Lyon and Nathan Chapin."--Geneology of the Ellis Family.

Richard Phillips was included in the first census (1790). He would have been 62 years of age. He is listed as the head of the family, with three female family members.

In 1790, according to the records in Hampshire County, Richard sold his land (8 1/2 acres) to "Vespasian Phillips, house carpenter." It has been impossible to locate any record of the death of either Richard or Ruth Pitts Phillips, either in Ashfield or in New York state where the families emigrated. However, after carefully comparing the Census records, this writer is convinced they must have died in Ashfield between 1800 and 1810. As mentioned above, Richard was listed in the 1790 Census as head of the family with three elderly females as his family. Vespasian, his son, was another head of household in that same census. In 1800 the son Vespasian is in the Census in Cayuga County, New York. There is also a Vespasian listed in Ashfield, the son of the elder Vespasian, and grandson of Richard (5). In his family are four children, father, mother, and one male and two females in the "45 and over" category. Surely the male and one of the females are Richard, at age 72, and Ruth, "45 years of age and over," living with the grandson after selling him their home. In the 1810 Census Vespasian II is in Cayuga County where his parents are living, and the "45 and over" members are no longer in his family. That Ruth and Richard

were a vital part of the family is apparent from the fact that their names, given or surname, occur so frequently in succeeding generations.

Further information on the children of Richard and Ruth Phillips follows:

A. Vespasian, born 5 March 1749, in Dighton, was the eldest son. He went with his parents at an early age to Ashfield, Mass. There he married Abilena Belding 7 May 1772. In 1798 Vespasian was on the list of eligible voters in Ashfield. The names of Vespasian and his wife Abilena were on the Baptist church records in 1798; they were dismissed in 1803. Some time before 1800 they must have moved to Sempronius, Cayuga County, New York, for they appear in the 1800 Census in that place. Under date of 22 June 1803 a deed is recorded in the Cayuga County Court House in Auburn, New York for the purchase of 100 acres by Vespasian. This was in lot #44, which is north and east of the present village of Moravia. 22 March 1805 he sold 50 of these acres to his son, Samuel. He is not in the 1820 Census. 18 May 1822 an entry in the court records states that Abilena Phillips, widow, relinquishes her dower rights to land. There was no will recorded in Auburn.

Vespasian and Abilena had several children. At least five of them can be identified through various records:

(a) Vespasian 2nd appears first in the sale of Richard's (5) land in 1791. In the 1800 Census he was in Ashfield, he and his wife and four

small children, along with the "45 and over" members as mentioned earlier. In the 1810 Census he was in Cayuga County, New York, where his parents had taken up residence before the turn of the century.

(b) Samuel purchased land from his father in Sempronius 22 March 1805. He married Daphne Butler. Their daughter, Theodosia, married Ebenezer Ellis of Niles, New York in Farmersville, Indiana.

(c) Elisha "was born in Ashfield. He married Electa Annable, daughter of Barnabas and Ruth Annable of Sempronius, New York. They settled in Farmersville, Indiana, in 1818." Several other members of the Phillips and Annable families went with them. "They all went down the Allegheny and Ohio Rivers on boats and rafts." The above two quotes are from the Geneology of the Ellis Family.

(d) Abilena, born in Ashfield in 1776, married John Ellis, Jr. 30 December 1795. They also settled in Sempronius and raised fifteen children. It is interesting to note the names of those children, as so many carry on the family tradition of naming children for their forebears: Vespasian, Sylvia, Azel, Harriet, Temer, Hiram, Elisha, Richard, Pitts, John J., Charles, Benjamin, Ebenezer, Ruth, Anthony W.

(e) Pitts may have been another son of Vespasian and Abilena. In the Auburn Gazette - 9 September 1818 is the following notice: Phillips, Pitts to Mary Daniels - Marr in Sempronius 3 Sep.

B. Elener, born 22 Sept. 1751 in Dighton. We find no further information on Elener and believe she died young.

C. SPENCER (6), born May 6, 1755, is number six in this family genealogy. See Page 63 for further information on Spencer and his family.

D. Pelatiah, son of Richard and Ruth, was born in Ashfield. The exact date is unknown, but from his application for a Revolutionary War Pension it must have been about 1756. He enlisted in March or April 1775 and served 8 months. He re-enlisted in 1776 and was honorably discharged in January 1777.

Vital Records of Ashfield show that Anna Annabele was married to Pelatiah Phillips 9 December 1778. She must have died some time within the next ten years, as there is another Ashfield entry stating Pelatiah Phillips married Cynthia Wait in 1789. Pelatiah is in the 1790 Census in Ashfield as head of the family with 4 females in the family.

26 January 1791 Pelatiah bought 1 1/2 acres in Ashfield from Simeon Smith of Middlefield: "an certain piece of land lying in Ashfield vis one acre and half of land that John Fuller late of Ashfield aforesaid bought of Johnson Pelton and George Smith late of Ashfield aforesaid together with 1/2 of a certain grist mill thereon standing with 1/2 of the privileges thereto belonging."--Hampshire County records. The other half was sold to Eldad F. Goodwin "the one half of a certain grist mill standing on South River so called in Ashfield formerly built by John Fuller late of Ashfield together with all

the privileges of rebuilding the mill or dam." Under date of June 4, 1799, Pelatiah Phillips of Washington, County of Birkshire, Mass. sold to Seth Wait (his brother-in-law) the 1 1/2 acres which Pelatiah bought from Simeon Smith. This deed was signed by Pelatiah Phillips and Cynthia Phillips.

No further word of Pelatiah is discovered until he filed for a Revolutionary War Pension, 3rd of April 1818. He was then living in Brandon, Rutland County, Vermont, with his wife Lydia, a widow with several children by her first husband, and a daughter, Diadamia. The pension was granted. Pelatiah died 17 June 1833.

E. Sylvester: he "was born at Ashfield, County of Hampshire, State of Massachusetts on the 12th day of June 1758. Never knew of any record of his age." At that time he was 74.

Sylvester enlisted the first time in North Hampton, Mass., in February, 1776, for one year, along with his brother Spencer Phillips in the company commanded by Capt. Israel Chapin under the command of Col. Elisha Porter. He volunteered June 1778 into the company commanded by Capt. Benjamin Phillips and served three months. In June 1781 he volunteered again and served three months at New London, "thinks General Washington was Commandant of the Brigade as he reviewed them several times."

"He resided each time he entered the service at Ashfield, Hampshire County, Massachusetts and resided there after the war until about the year 1795

and then moved to Guilford, Chenango County, State of New York, where he now resides."

The above quotations are taken from his application for a pension, dated the 9th of October, 1832. In his application he mentions Spencer, though he doesn't give any relationship.

Sylvester married Rachel Chilson in 1783, daughter of Asaph Chilson of Conway, Mass. The family appears in the 1790 Census in Ashfield, composed of Sylvester, Rachel, a son under 10 years who would be Richard, and three daughters, aged 10 to 16. Another son, Asaph, was born in Ashfield July 8, 1795; and there was also another son, Luther, who died about 1826.

According to the Geneology of the Ellis Family he was on a list of eligible voters in 1798, so he must have gone to Guilford a little later than mentioned. This is corroborated by a line in the obituary of his son, Asaph, which says: "he moved to the town of Guilford when only three years of age. At this time there were no roads, and they traveled by what was called marked or blazed trees."

County records show that Sylvester Phillips sold land in Ashfield 30 April 1792, and again 19 May 1797. The latter deed was signed by Sylvester Phillips, Yeoman and Rachel Phillips, spinster, and it may be presumed that the family left for Chenango County at this time.

Sylvester homesteaded a large farm at Guilford; he had for a partner Silas Hoyt. This farm was in the Phillips family for more than one hundred years,

having passed from Sylvester to his son Asaph, to his grandson Charlton, and then to the husband of his great-granddaughter, Mrs. Charles Mickle. Sylvester appears in the Census in Guilford in 1800 - 1810 - 1820 - 1830.

In 1836 he asked that his pension be transferred "from New York State to Tioga County, Pennsylvania. Being aged and feeble in health he wishes to reside with his son Richard with whom he now is." One of those witnessing his signing is Charlton Phillips. This Charlton was another grandson of Sylvester; his father was Richard.

Rachel Phillips died 6 April 1840, in Westfield, Tioga County, Pennsylvania; Sylvester died there 8 February 1841. They are buried in Champlin Cemetery in Westfield.

In the fall of 1982, my husband Clayton and I went to Guilford, New York, to see if we could locate any information on Sylvester Phillips. There we found the Odell family, who are a direct line from Sylvester. They were most gracious and friendly, and have provided us with much that we know about this brother of Spencer Phillips, our own Revolutionary War veteran.

Sylvester and Rachel had five children:

(a) Philinda, born in Ashfield, Mass., April 9, 1783; died May 4, 1870. She married Samuel Kent.

(b) Richard was born in Ashfield in 1788 and died 25 August 1868 in Westfield, Tioga County, Pennsylvania. He apparently went to Tioga County as a young man and invested in land there. He married Amity Newton (12/19/1787-6/14/1866) of Shippen,

Tioga County, in 1807, and they finally settled in the town of Westfield, Pa., where they are buried in Champlin Cemetery. They had eight children: Samuel, Charlton, Philinda, Permillia, Julia Ann, Delana, Dorlisca and Mellissa. Charlton Phillips married Thankful Ellis in Shippen 11 August 1838. They were the parents of eleven children, among whom were Sylvester D. and Rachel.

(c) Asaph was born in Ashfield 8 July 1795 and died in Guilford, N. Y., 19 November 1877. He married Hannah Hoyt (1801-1881), daughter of Silas Hoyt, Sylvester's partner, December 1, 1819. Asaph took over the family farm from his father and father-in-law. He and Hannah had five children: Malita, Mariah, Charlton, Malissa and Mary Jane. The farm passed to Asaph's son Charlton at his father's death. Judging from his obituary, Charlton was a very exceptional man, being active in farming and business, in civic and church affairs. He was a Civil War veteran. He was married to JerushaMathewson March 9, 1858. They had two daughters: Mary E., who married Charles D. Mickle, and Minnie Belle, who married Murray A. Odell. The Odells had five children, including a son Phillips Murray who married Ernestine E. Greene. They were the parents of Carlton Phillips Odell, whom we found in Guilford on our 1982 visit. His wife, Catherine M. Westcott and her sister-in-law Ruth Cotter Odell, wife of Charles John, have provided us

with much family information, and deserve our gratitude. They have many interesting photographs of their branch of the Phillips family.

(d) Luther. The only information we have been able to find about this son is that he died about 1826.

(e) Minda. We have only two pieces of information about this daughter of Sylvester and Rachel. She married a Mr. Spafford, and the Odells have a nice photograph of her in middle age, wearing what appears to be a very lovely white cap, tied under a firm chin and mouth!

SPENCER PHILLIPS (6)

SPENCER PHILLIPS was sixth in the genealogical line. Son of Richard and Ruth Pitts Phillips, he was born in Huntstown (Ashfield), Mass. 6 May 1755. It has been impossible to find an official record of his birth. This is due, no doubt, to the fact that the settlers of Huntstown had to leave their town for two to three years, 1754-1756/7, because of the Indian attacks, as described in the chapter on Richard(5), and the almost complete lack of town records before 1776. His birth date can be established from references in his pension application papers, and from his tombstone.

At age 21 he joined other young men of Ashfield, including Sylvester Phillips, a brother, in the Revolutionary War. They were in the company commanded by Capt. Israel Chapin, in the Regiment commanded by Col. Elisha Porter, in the line of the State of Massachusetts. This company traveled through Vermont to Ticonderoga and Lake Champlain, on up the St. Lawrence river to Quebec, finally returning to Ticonderoga after skirmishes with the British. A more detailed account of the campaign is given in Sylvester Phillips' pension application.

Ashfield Vital Records show that Spencer and Dorcas Flower, both of Ashfield, were married Nov. 23, 1783. Dorcas was the widow of Bildad Flower, a Revolutionary War soldier who died in service. A deposition by one Peleg Standish of Bronson, Ohio, a locality near Hartland, Ohio, given in support of Dorcas' application for a widow's pension, tells of her wedding to Spencer.

Many interesting facts are known about Spencer and

Dorcas and their family. No record is found of the birth of Dorcas. From her headstone and her application for a widow's pension, it may be assumed she was born 30 May 1755. Her great-grandson, Samuel W. Smith, congressman from Michigan, said her maiden name was Ranney. This is born out by the fact that one of her grandchildren, the eldest child of Bildad, was named Ruth Ranney Phillips. There were many Ranneys in Ashfield in the early days, and the record of her birth, like that of Spencer, could have been lost or neglected in the years 1754-1756/7 when the people of Huntstown fled to the east side of the Connecticut River for protection from the Indians. Her first husband, Bildad Flower, died after three years' service as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He left his widow with two young daughters. Ruth, born about 1777, married Jesse Ranney of Ashfield; Amanda, born 1780, married (1st) Edward Ellis of Ashfield and (2nd) Reverend Lyman Forbush. They settled in Sempronius New York.

Spencer and Dorcas had six children: Eleanor, b. 1784; Hulda, b. 1789; Pollina (Paulina), b. 1792; Mabel (or Mehitabel), b. 1795; Bildad, b. 1797; and Spencer Jr., b. 1798. All were born in Ashfield.

Spencer bought 50 acres of land in Ashfield 9 Feb. 1796, according to the records of Hampshire County. This must have been quite an undertaking, as at the time he had only daughters to help him farm or improve the land. 1798 was a busy year for the family. Their son, Spencer, Jr. was born that year; they sold 25 acres of land September 3rd. Their daughter, Eleanor, married Peter Bathrick in Conway 25 September; and on

the 18th of October five of their children, excepting only Eleanor, the eldest, were baptised (CRI) in Ashfield. Spencer was on the voting list in Ashfield that year, too.

In the records of the purchase and sale of land we find the following entries:

21 Dec. 1804, sold 6 2/4 acres to Gad Elmer
11 Mar. 1805, sold 25 acres
30 Dec. 1807, bought 20 acres
30 Dec. 1807, bought 7 acres
12 May 1815, sold 20 acres

"About 1800 . . . there was quite an emigration from Ashfield, many of the residents seeking new homes in Cayuga and Onondaga Counties, in New York. Among those were several of the Ellises, Annables, Bartletts, Phillipses and others from . . . Ashfield."--Geneology of the Ellis Family. Spencer and Dorcas went with their family to Sempronius, New York, probably in 1817 or 1818. Real estate transfers on record in Auburn, Cayuga County, show that he purchased 34 1/8 acres in Sempronius in May 1818. This land was in lot 65, about two miles north of Moravia.

In 1823/4 the youngest son, Spencer, Jr., married Sally Ann Tidd; and the next year Bildad married Jane Allen, daughter of Russell and Lydia Allen of Moravia.

By the year 1826 Spencer, Sr. and Dorcas were seventy-one years of age; they sold their land in Sempronius and went to live with their son Spencer, Jr. 20 January, 1829 the Revolutionary War veteran applied for and received a government pension, under the Act of Congress of the 18th of March 1818, and the first of May 1820.

Axe Factory Burying Ground Norwalk, Ohio

We find Spencer, Sr., in the First Census in 1790 in Ashfield. He was also there in the 1800 and 1810 censuses. In 1820 he is in Cayuga County, Sempronius Township. In the 1830 census he and Dorcas are included in Spencer Jr.'s family.

In 1833 Bildad and his family moved from Sempronius to Independence, Michigan, taking his sister, Huldah, with them. A year or so later Spencer Jr. moved his family, including his parents, to Hartland, Huron County, Ohio, where they lived on Zenobia Road. Spencer Sr., died there December 24, 1840, at age 85, and was buried in the Axe Factory Burying Ground on South Norwalk Road, Huron County. This was one of the earliest public cemeteries in Huron County. It is so named because there was an axe factory across the road at one time. Two years after the death of her husband, on October 3, 1842, at age 87, Dorcas applied for a widow's pension, which was eventually denied. However, she died on October 13 of that year, and is buried beside her husband.

Interesting note on Spencer Sr. There were Phillipses in Berlin Heights, Ohio, a town about ten miles from Hartland, though they were not related to Spencer Phillips as far as we know. The D.A.R. ladies there, not knowing that he was buried in the Axe Factory Burying Ground near Norwalk, placed a memorial headstone for him in the Baptist Cemetery in Berlin Heights, in the Phillips plot, although there is no grave at this site. It reads: Spencer Phillips
Pvt. Porter's Mass. Mil.
Rev. War
December 24, 1840

As mentioned earlier, Spencer and Dorcas had six children:

A. Eleanor married Peter Bathorick (Butrick) 28 August 1798 in Conway, Mass., a small community near Ashfield. At some time the Bathoricks moved to Sempronius, New York, and about 1835 on to Norwalk, Ohio, when the rest of the family migrated there. Eleanor and Peter built and operated a tavern in Bronson Township. Their children were Zebina (a male), Charles, Almon, Spencer, William Henry Harrison, Lyman, Eleanor Lois, Rosilla, and Betsey. Eleanor died in the Norwalk area in 1841 and is buried in the Olena Cemetery, south of Norwalk. An interesting story involving her brother, Bildad, and her son Bine (Zebina) is in the chapter about Bildad Phillips.

B. Hulda, who never married, moved to Independence Township, Michigan, when her brother Bildad and his wife Jane took up residence there in 1833. She and Bildad each homesteaded land there and when she died she willed hers to Bildad. She died August 15 1851, and is buried in Sashabaw Cemetery on Maybee Road in Independence Township. Her will is in the appendix.

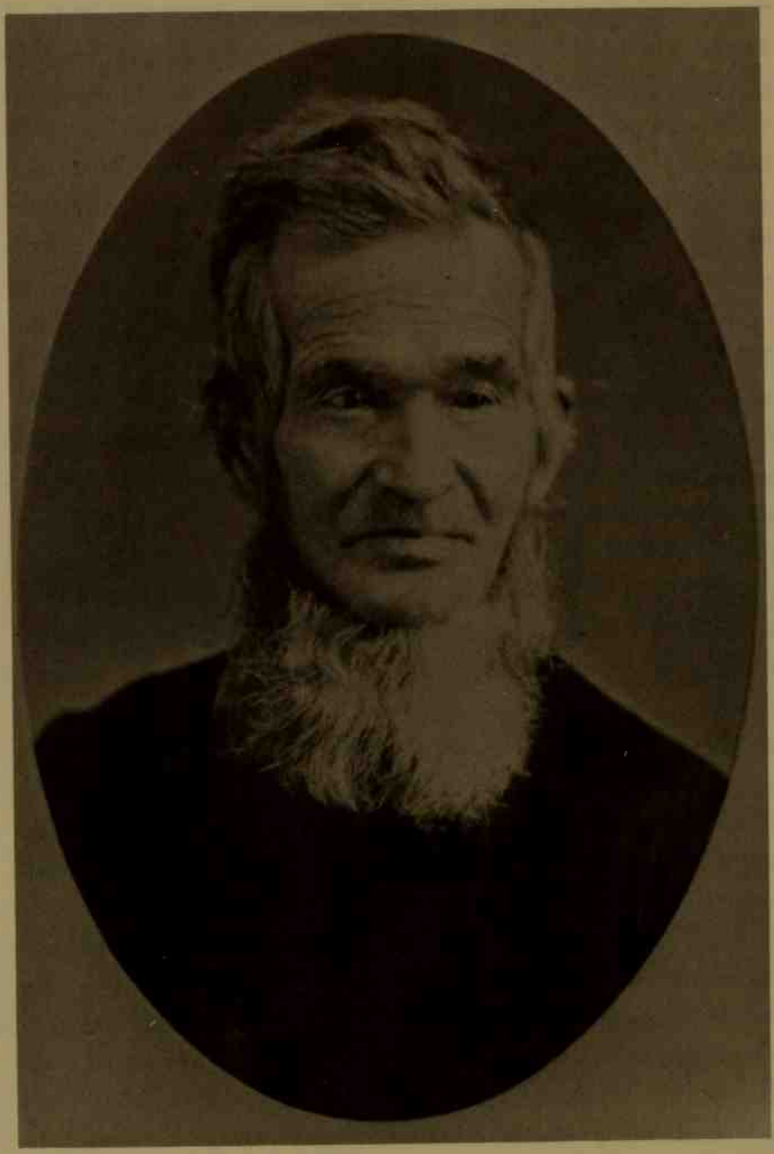
C. Polina (Paulina) married (1st) Daniel Lazell in Sempronius, N. Y.; and (2nd) Uriah Parker of Bronson, near Norwalk, Ohio on Jan. 3, 1837. She seems to have moved to Ohio with the rest of her family. She, too, died in the Norwalk area, 14 January 1858, and is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Norwalk.

D. Mabel (or Mehitabel) was married in Conway, Mass. on Feb. 12, 1812, to Ebenezer D. Redfield of Phelps,

Ontario County, New York. They settled in Penfield, Ontario County, New York. Redfield Family in the U.S. by John Howard Redfield, lists their children as William Hamilton, George Brooks, Lysander, Aristeen Heacock, Solomon Childs, Willard Wells and Richard Pitts. Willard Wells Redfield was for many years the editor of the Norwalk, Ohio newspaper The Experiment. Richard Pitts Redfield was publisher and proprietor of the Ogle County, Illinois, Banner. It is interesting to note that this grandson of Spencer Phillips, Sr. was named Richard Pitts, Richard being his great-grandfather's name and Pitts the maiden name of his great-grandmother. Mabel Phillips Redfield died in New York state 8 Jan. 1851.

E. BILDAD (7). After having four daughters, Spencer and Dorcas had a son whom they named for Dorcas' first husband, Bildad. He is number seven in this genealogical line. For the record on Bildad see page 74.

F. Spencer Jr. was the youngest child in this family. Born in Ashfield in 1798, he went with the family when they moved to Sempronius in 1818. There he married Sally Ann Tidd, born 8 Jan. 1800. In the course of time his father turned over his property to this son, in exchange for care in the late years of the lives of himself and his wife. This information is in his pension application. In 1834 Spencer, Jr. moved his family, including his parents to Hartland, Huron County, Ohio (near Norwalk) where they lived on Zenobia Road. Spencer Jr. was a farmer and a shoe maker, and, according to the



Spencer Phillips, Jr. 1798 - 1875

1870 census, an axe handle maker.

In the same Axe Factory Burying Ground where Spencer Sr. and Dorcas are buried is the grave of Sally Ann, wife of Spencer, Jr., who died August 24, 1854, aged 54. Spencer, Jr. is buried there, too, though there is not a marker on his grave. He died July 21, 1875, at the age of 77.

Spencer, Jr. and Sally Ann had five children:
Palatiah, 1825 - 1900. He married (1st) Sarah Welch 20 Oct. 1851, and (2nd) Mary Ann Waddell, April 1871.
Selina, 1826 - 1905, who married James Snedaker April 18, 1852.
Diadama, 1828 - 1916. She married William Manahan in 1851.
Laura Vestalena, 1831 - 1898, married Amasa Dolbee 24 September, 1857.
Richard R., 1833 - 1913, married Emily Dolbee September 7, 1857.
All of these children, with the exception of Palatiah, are buried in the Olena Cemetery.

Also in the Axe Factory Burying Ground is a stone marked

"Palatiah Phillips 1825-1900 Sarah Welch 1829-1867
and Children of P and S Phillips
Eleanor 1853 - 1865
Marie 1857 - 1863
Achsah 1859 - 1863
Ursula 1864 - 1867"

Some epidemic must have taken four children and their mother within four years. Consumption (tuberculosis) was rampant in those years. Only Anna, born about 1852, grew to maturity. She married

Mary Ann and Palatiah Phillips
in front of the house he built on Zenobia Road

George Chaffee, and they had two children: a boy who died as a young man with no heirs, and Jane, who married a Darling. Palatiah married (2nd) Mary Ann Waddell of Knox County, April 6, 1871. They had no children. Henry Timman of Norwalk, Ohio, has given us several clues to the Phillips family in Hartland. His grandmother lived for several years as a young person with her Aunt Mary Ann Waddell Phillips and "Uncle Pal."

The original home of Spencer Jr. and his father on Zenobia Road is no longer standing. However, about 1850 Palatiah built a story and a half house on the property, just across the driveway. His father, Spencer, Jr., lived there with him. About 1904 Palatiah's grandson, Bert Chaffee raised the house to a full two stories. The house still stands, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Weisenberger and their family, 1624 Zenobia Road. Though the house is still basically as it was, it has been weatherized and very tastefully decorated with furnishings in keeping with the age and character of the house.

BILDAD PHILLIPS (7)

BILDAD PHILLIPS, number seven in the genealogical line and eldest son of Spencer Phillips Sr. and Dorcas Ranney Flower, was born in Ashfield, Mass., June 9, 1797. He was named for his mother's first husband, Bildad Flower, who died while serving in the Revolutionary War. The family migrated to Sempronius, N. Y. about 1817/18 and there Bildad married Jane Ann Allen February 7, 1825.

The following is a quote from the History of Oakland County Michigan 1817 to 1877, Independence Township:

"In 1832 a number of immigrants were added to the Sashabaw settlement . . . . Bildad Phillips and his nephew, Bine Bathrick, natives of New York, came into the country with a view of purchasing land, in the fall of 1832. They stopped at Thomas Beardslee's and took along one of his little boys, a lad about eight years old, to show a certain piece of land which had been recommended. Leaving the lad at an old camp, they went to look at the land, but on desiring to return, found that they were disagreed as to the direction which would lead them back to the camp, one claiming exactly the opposite of the other. Finally, Bathrick yielded to the older judgment of Phillips, and they started out. Mile after mile was traveled only to find, if possible, that the forest was more dense than any yet seen, while not a trace of the camp could be discovered. Alarmed for the safety of the boy, who they feared would wander from the camp if they did not return by evening, they redoubled their efforts. It soon became apparent that they were lost, and had not the remotest idea of the location of the camp. Thus they wandered on until they finally reached the house of a settler, with no hope of finding the boy that night. The lad had meanwhile become apprehensive that the men had lost their way, and had started in search of them, going several miles in different directions, but always returning to the camp. When it began to grow dark he made preparations

to pass the night as comfortably as he could. It proved to be one of those bitter frosty nights which sometimes succeed a warm day, and, as he was barefooted, it was only with the greatest difficulty that he kept from freezing. When the parents of the boy found that their son and the men did not return, they instituted a search for him. Next morning he was discovered at camp, apparently not much astonished at spending the night all alone in the woods infested by wild beasts. Both Phillips and Bathrick made selections on section 23, and moved on to their places early the next year."

The first three of Jane and Bildad's children were born in Sempronius. Then in 1833 they emigrated to Independence Township, Michigan, taking Bildad's sister, Huldah, with them. Bildad and Huldah homesteaded farms on Pine Knob Road. That property has remained in the Phillips family for a hundred and fifty years. Clarkston is the town in Independence Township.

Stories are told of the pioneers having to build and feed huge bonfires all night to keep wolves from the first cabin. It has also been said that from the top of Pine Knob one could see three different townships. A newspaper clipping under date of March 9, 1967, makes interesting comments on the lives of the Phillips family in those early years. (See appendix.)

Bildad was a farmer, and a carpenter; he taught school as well when necessary. He served as Supervisor of the Township of Independence in the matter of taxes. He was active in community affairs. He must have had to work very hard to clear the land and manage to make a living for his large family. At the death of his sister he inherited her share of the homestead.

Hulda Phillips died in Independence August 15, 1851, and was buried in Sashabaw Cemetery, Maybee Road. Her will is included in the appendix.

Bildad Phillips died October 11, 1856, at the family home, at age fifty-nine. He is buried in the Sashabaw Cemetery. It should be noted that Bildad died October 11; his young daughter, Laura Surmantha, died October 13; and his older daughter, Mary Ann, wife of Nicholas B. Smith, died October 18. Research has not revealed if they were victims of an epidemic, but it appears that they surely were. There are many Phillipses buried in Sashabaw Cemetery, and some in Lake View Cemetery in Clarkston.

Jane Ann Allen, Bildad's wife, and executrix of his estate, was the daughter of Russell Allen and Lydia Ann Russell of Moravia, New York. The following obituary from the Clarkston Chronicle gives the gives the statistics on her life:

"Mrs. Jane Phillips died at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Jerome Vliet, in Clarkston, on Friday, October 3, 1890. The funeral services were by Rev. J. M. Giltner, pastor of the Baptist Church, at the house. She was buried in the cemetery at Sashabaw. Mrs. Phillips, whose maiden name was Jane Allen, was born at White Creek, Washington County, New York, May 20, 1808. She was married to Bildad Phillips at Sempronius, New York, Feb. 7, 1825. They removed to Michigan in 1834, and after remaining about a year in Troy, settled in Independence on the farm where she lived until after the death of Mr. Phillips in October 1856. She has lived with her daughter several years, and has been a great sufferer from cancer, which was the cause of her death. Six children survive her, all residents of Michigan except one son, Edward, who lives at Medina, Ohio."

Much research has been done on the parents of Jane Ann Allen. There is a D.A.R. scroll of the Ancestral Chart of Mrs. Grace Shepherd Mergen-Swartz of Fairbury, Nebraska, compiled and arranged by Mrs. Ella Glenn Shields of Chicago, Illinois, which shows that Russell Allen was born in 1788 at Deerfield, Mass. His father was John Allen, who was born Nov. 24, 1752 and died after 1800 in Northfield, Mass. His mother was Jemima Janes, born May 16, 1757. She was the daughter of Ebenezer Janes (1736-1808). John Allen and Jemima Janes were married July 6, 1771. The scroll is a very elaborate affair, and reaches back into the thirteenth century in England. There is a chart in the appendix which takes Russell Allen's line back to Edward Allen of Ipswich. The scroll and the chart were provided to me by members of the Allen family. I have not researched this family.

The scroll gives Russell Allen's death as 1847. That is an error. He made out his will in Moravia 25 March 1847, naming his son, Sidney Allen and his son-in-law, Nathan G. Morgan as executors. He died April 25, 1860. Mr. Goodelle at the County Historian's Office in Auburn found an obituary for Russell Allen in The Christian Ambassador, dated May 12, 1860.

"In Moravia, Cayuga Co., N. Y. April 25th, 1860, MR. RUSSELL ALLEN in the 76th year of his age. The deceased was one of the oldest and most respected citizens of this village. He moved into this town about the year 1820, and lived in this vicinity the remainder of his days. He lived a life of temperance, honesty and virtue, and was highly respected by all who knew him. His funeral was attended at the

Methodist church on the 29th, by a large number of aged people who had known him in early manhood, and by many other sympathizing friends. A sermon was preached by the writer from Job v. 26 -- "Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in, in its season." He leaves an aged widow, an only son and two daughters to mourn his loss. May they all find sweet consolation in believing that death is not a finality, but only the gate way to a higher life, and may the assurance that God is the unchangeable Father fill their minds with hope and their hearts with peace. S. Crane."

Russell Allen was buried in the Dry Creek Cemetery at Moravia. A letter from Mrs. J. W. Crosby of Moravia states "Dry Creek Cemetery in Moravia betrayed its name several times and flooded three times severely. In 1863, July 21, 'a foaming torrent, filled with trees and logs . . . turned against the western bank of the cemetery . . . quickly undermined . . . western portion . . . 35 to 40 graves carried away' --from James Wright's Sketches of Moravia -- 1918. . . . the chances are his grave was one of those."

Russell Allen married Lydia Ann Russell, probably in White Creek, Washington County, New York. To date it has been impossible to determine who her parents were. From her tombstone we must assume she was born in 1787, though in the New York State census of 1855 her age is given as 65, which would make her birthdate 1790. That census gives Russell's age as 68, states that they were both born in Washington County, and that they had lived in Cayuga County for forty years.

L Y D I A

Wife of
Russell Allen
Died
Dec. 15 1876
Aged
89 Yrs 8 Mo

White Creek is a pretty village near Bennington, Vermont, and the home of Grandma Moses, the painter of primitives. In the early 1800's many, many Allens lived there. In fact, the town was founded by a John Allen. He and his family erected several beautiful old homes there. A placque in front of his home reads: "John Allen, Sr. 1734-1826 came to White Creek 1761 from Dartmouth, Mass. by sloop up the Hudson to Lansingburg and walked to his purchased home, Walloomsac Patent, Lot no. 16. Overseer of Roads 1777. Erected by N. Y. State Education Dept. 1940." Just down the road, and across from the Jermain United Methodist Church, which was built in 1798, is another placque: "Site of John Allen's Hat Shop Born 1775 - died 1855". We visited with Mrs. Harriet Byars and her husband, Gordon, while we were in White Creek. They live in the Ebenezer Allen home on Meeting House Road (the Quaker meetinghouse was built on that road.) Ebenezer was the brother of the John who founded the town. These Allens were Quakers, and when, during the War of the Revolution, Ebenezer took up arms with the colonists, his brother, "Quaker John", it is told, would not speak to him, saying "Ebenezer has blood on his hands." We cannot say that Russell Allen was one of that family, and accept the information in the scroll.

There were a great many Russells in White Creek, too. New York State did not keep Vital Records until 1885. Searching and comparing available Census records and early wills has not helped us establish which Russell family might have been Lydia's.

Russell and Lydia appear first in the 1810 census in

Washington County. As mentioned in her obituary, Jane Ann was born in White Creek in 1808. The family moved to Sempronius (Moravia), New York in 1815 where they lived for forty-five years or more.

After the death of her husband, Lydia apparently moved with her son, Sidney, in 1868, to Buchanan, Michigan, where she lived until her death December 15, 1876, at age 89. She is buried in the Bakertown Cemetery there in the Allen plot.

Russell and Lydia had five children:

Ann, who married Nathan Morgan of Springport, New York. We have been unable to trace this daughter, other than mention of her in her father's will.

Jane Ann, born in 1808, wife of Bildad Phillips. She also was named in her father's will.

James R., born 1812, died April 22, 1832, aged 20 years. He was apparently not married. This information is from his tombstone in the Dry Creek Cemetery.

Sidney, born in 1815, died in 1875 in Buchanan, Mich. He married (1st) Laura Cady, daughter of Isaac Cady and Sophronia Bartlett, June 26, 1836; (2nd) Samantha P. ? ; and (3rd) Elizabeth Conklin.

Laura died at age 24, leaving Sidney with four small children: Amanda, Ann Morgan, Charles and Laura Sophronia. Little is known of Sidney's second wife except that she had two sons, Francis (Frank) and George. George lived in Troy, Montana. Correspondence with Ethel Phillips Cleveland, great-granddaughter of Jane Ann Allen Phillips, gives us this quote: "the only Allens I ever heard of were George and Frank who used to come to Grandfather and Grandmother Phillips's

visiting. Don't know where they came from or what branch of the family they came from. Maybe they were Sidney's sons."

"When the second wife, Samantha P., and the mother of the two boys was only 21 years old, she, too, died, leaving six children for Sidney to care for. In a short time he married for the third time. She was Elizabeth Conklin and they were married by a Rev. Luther Conklin who is thought to have been her brother as, according to dates on the tombstones, there was about six years' difference in their ages. Elizabeth must have been part saint for taking on this large family. Soon she also had a child by Sidney, a son, Arthur." The above quote is from Mrs. Edna Dalenberg.

Sidney's children were all born in New York State. In 1868, after the death of his father, Sidney apparently moved to Buchanan, Michigan, taking his mother, aged 81, with him.

In tracing the Allen family we discovered a very interesting family of Allens who come down from Sidney Allen through his wife Laura, and their daughter Laura, who married an Annable. Mrs. Edna Annable Dalenberg, of Niles, Michigan, has passed on to us much interesting information about the Allen family, as well as introducing us to her two sisters, Florence Freeland and Mildred Fricke of Dayton, Ohio.

We have also been privileged to become acquainted with Leona and Maurice Barker of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, through following the Allen connection. Mr. Barker's family came down from Laura Cady Allen's daughter Anna Morgan, who married Charles Shepherd.

Mary, youngest child of Russell and Lydia Russell Allen, was born in 1821, and died on January 12, 1858, at age 37. She was married (1st) to Michael Baldwin and (2nd) to Peter Bolles.

Jane and Bildad Phillips had ten children:

A. Ruth Ranney was born in Sempronius May 30, 1826. She married Henry West July 4, 1844 in Independence Michigan, and died there August 24, 1900. Her children were: Philander, Elizabeth, Marcus M. and Elmer. The name of this daughter would seem to add credence to the assumption that Dorcas Flower Phillips' maiden name was Ranney.

B. Mary Ann, born in Sempronius November 14, 1828, married Nicholas B. Smith February 14, 1845 in Independence and died there October 18, 1856. Her children were Samuel and Ann E. Sam Smith was a lawyer and spent twenty-five years in public service, including eighteen years as Representative to the U. S. Congress for the 6th District of Michigan.

C. Henry Pitts, named for his great-great-grandfather, was born Feb. 3, 1831, in Sempronius and moved to Independence with the family. He left home in 1854 and no further record of him is found.

D. James R. was born March 5, 1833 in Independence. He never married. He was a member of the 2nd Michigan Cavalry in the Civil War, and was in poor health thereafter. He died Oct. 2, 1885, in Clarkston, Michigan. It is interesting to note that this son of Jane Allen's was born just about a year after the death of her brother, James R. Allen. Surely he was named for his uncle!

E. CHARLES EDWARD (8) was born May 15, 1834. See page 90 for further information on this Phillips who is the eighth in the line.

F. Theodore Spencer was born October 27, 1836, in Independence. He was only nineteen when his father died and for the ensuing five years he ran the farm for his mother. He married Mary Louise King at Fenton, Michigan, April 3, 1861. She was the daughter of William and Eliza King, born June 7, 1837. Apparently she was a very exceptional woman. A letter from her to her niece, Maud, is in the appendix. It gives a good insight into pioneering in those early days. Two clippings from The Clarkston (Mich.) News (also in the appendix) give further highlights on Theodore and Mary and their family. They built a new house on the Phillips homestead.

Their son and only child, Clarence, born July 18, 1869, married Virginia Poole (b. October 23, 1875; d. April 8, 1961) on January 1, 1895, and soon thereafter Theodore and Mary moved in to Clarkston, leaving the management of the farm to the younger generation. Theodore died July 9, 1925; Mary died March 26, 1923. They are buried in the Sashabaw Cemetery.

Clarence continued to operate the family farm while working as a mail clerk on the railroad between Pontiac and Chicago. He died August 3, 1937. He and his wife are buried in the Sashabaw Cemetery.

Three daughters were born to Clarence and Virginia: (a) Ethel Margaret, born November 26, 1898, married

Clarence and Virginia Poole
Daughter Edith
Theodore and Mary King
Phillips

Daughters of Clarence and Virginia Phillips
Ethel Cleveland - Mary Ingamells - Edith Longmuir

(1st) William C. Barnett, June 10, 1925. He died December 27, 1952. On August 4, 1956 Ethel married (2nd) Theodore Cleveland (b. April 29, 1905). She was a lifetime resident of Independence Township. A teacher in the local schools for a time, she later became an abstractor for Oakland County abstract companies. She was active in the Sashabaw Presbyterian Church where she served as a Sunday School teacher and Elder. She was secretary of the Sashabaw Cemetery Association for many years. Ethel died January 8, 1983, and is buried in the Sashabaw Cemetery. The outpouring of affection and respect demonstrated at her funeral service was a wonderful tribute to this gracious lady. Ted Cleveland retired in September, 1965, from the Pontiac Motor Division of General Motors Corp. He continues to live in the Waterford apartment he and Ethel moved into when they sold the home on Pine Knob Road.

(b) Mary, the second daughter, was born May 21, 1901, and on November 15, 1946 was married to Lloyd Ingamells, who was a farmer. He was born Jan. 1, 1901, and died Feb. 25, 1975. Mary and Lloyd continued to live in the family home with her mother until her mother's death in 1961. Since then she has lived in a Century Farmhouse in Drayton Plains, a legacy to her husband. Mary retired in 1969 from Lawyers Title Insurance Corp. She is a very dedicated and active member of the Sashabaw Presbyterian Church, much loved by a

host of friends and family members.

(c) Edith, born July 11, 1903, married Stuart Longmuir, son of an old Oakland County family, December 1, 1926. Stuart was born May 10, 1899, and died June 23, 1974. Their son, Robert Bruce, married Mary Beth Crane. Edith, at the time of this writing, has two lovely grandchildren, Jeanne E., a graduate student of law at Case-Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, and Robert Steven who has completed one year of study at the University of Indiana at Bloomington. She lives in the house she and her husband built near Pontiac, enjoying her family and her garden.

These three daughters have lived in the Pine Knob area of Independence Township where their great-grandfather homesteaded the land, all their lives, though the family home has been sold. They have been very close to each other and have each been active in their community and given much of their time to church affairs and to family ties.

G. Lydia Ann, born March 17, 1839, in Independence, married John Myerhof January 7, 1858. She died in Akron, Michigan, August 3, 1911. She had three children: Henry, Fred and Ella (Church).

H. Sylvester Valentine was born May 21, 1844 in Independence. He married Elizabeth Gunderman of Oakland, Michigan. They had two children: Lavinia Phillips Barrows and Hubert. "Uncle Vet" died January 26, 1918, and is buried in Lake View Cemetery in Clarkston.

I. Laura Samantha (Surmantha) was born October 7, 1847 at Independence and died at the age of nine, October 13, 1856, just two days after her father's death.

J. Sarah Jane, born May 29, 1851, in Independence, married Jerome Vliet February 12, 1871, in Waterford, Michigan. She died in Clarkston December 27, 1914. Her child, Mildred, died in infancy. Clayton remembers "Uncle Rome Vliet" visiting his family in Lodi, Ohio, -- a friendly, bearded man who told thrilling stories of pioneering in Michigan to his young great-nephews as he walked with them in the woods near their home. He was born March 10, 1849 and died August 14, 1932; he is buried in Lake View Cemetery in Clarkston beside his wife.

CHARLES EDWARD PHILLIPS (8)

CHARLES EDWARD PHILLIPS was the eighth Phillips in this genealogical line. He was the son of Bildad and Jane Allen Phillips, born in Independence, Michigan, May 15, 1834. He was specially mentioned in the will of his Aunt Hulda Phillips who died in 1851. The will is in the appendix. Charles and Theodore operated the farm for their mother after Bildad's death, and in 1862, after Theodore was married, Charles emigrated to Norwalk, Ohio, where his grandfather and uncle had settled. There he learned the harness maker's trade. After serving his apprenticeship in Norwalk, he apparently moved to Wellington, Ohio, to practice his trade. Wellington was a small farming center in Lorain County, a good location for a harness maker. On Feb. 24, 1868, he married Priscilla Warner of Penfield, a small community about five miles east of Wellington. We find them in the 1870 census for Wellington: Charles E. Phillips, harness maker; wife, Priscilla; daughter, Myrta Mae, 1 yr. old. It would seem that they moved to Penfield prior to February 2, 1871, as their son, William Emmett, was born on that date in Penfield. Though no record of it can be found, William has told his sons that he was born on that date in Penfield.

Charles Edward and Priscilla, along with her parents, John and Fanny Warner, joined the Penfield Baptist Church in 1873. According to the church records, Charles and Priscilla asked for a letter of transfer to the LaGrange Baptist Church in 1875, and we find them there in the 1880 Census. LaGrange is a small

town about five miles north of Penfield, both on Rte. 301 in Lorain County. The family lived in LaGrange for about eight years, the children receiving their schooling there. They continued to be active in the Baptist Church in LaGrange.

In 1883 the family moved to Medina, Ohio, where they lived at 598 So. Broadway, corner of Broadway and Grant Street. Ethel Phillips Cleveland of Michigan recalled that her parents brought her and her sisters to visit "Uncle Charles and Aunt Priscilla" in Medina when she was a young girl. The grandchildren, sons of William, remember sleeping upstairs in the "loft" on occasion. Clayton Phillips recalls a family reunion held there, probably in 1909, the year before his grandfather died. This house is still in use, though it is no longer in the possession of the family.

Clayton, grandson of Charles, remembers him as a warm and friendly person, well liked in the community. He was a guard at the railroad crossing in Medina in his later years, when Clayton was a little boy, a source of some pride to his grandson. Friends called him "Cap". He died in Medina January 17, 1910, and was buried in Spring Grove Cemetery there. The following is a quote from his obituary: "He was converted in 1873 and united with the Baptist denomination, to which he remained a faithful adherent until his death. He leaves a wife, two children, two brothers and two sisters, and a host of friends."

A. Myrta Mae, eldest child of Charles Edward and Priscilla Warner Phillips, was born in 1869 in

Charles Edward and Priscilla Warner
PHILLIPS

Wellington, Ohio. She married Charles Burkett (b. Feb. 5, 1862; d. March 1934) on October 2, 1889. He lived near Chippewa Lake in Medina County. Their children were: Rolland, Neil and Dorothy. Myrta died in 1953 and is buried in Spring Grove Cemetery in Medina, beside her husband. For further information on Myrta and Charles see the chapter on the Burkett family, page 99.

B. WILLIAM EMMETT (9). For the record on William, the only son of Charles Edward and Priscilla Phillips, and the ninth in this genealogical line, see page 95 .

Priscilla Warner Phillips was the daughter of John Warner of Penfield, Ohio, and Fanny Heyd (Hyde) Huffstoter. John was born at Lincolnshire, England, April 8, 1813. In 1832 he came to America, settling first at Milton, Wayne County, Ohio. He united with the Baptist Church there. January 25, 1837, he was married to Fanny Heyd Huffstoter, widow of D. Huffstoter. Fanny was one of fifteen children born to Henry Heyd (1787-1856) and his wife Mary (1789-1872). They came to Ohio from York County, Pennsylvania, and settled in the Wellington area. Fanny, born in 1811, married (1st) D. Huffstoter. They had a son, David, born May 3, 1832. After Mr. Huffstoter's death, Fanny married (2nd) John Warner. They had seven children. Sarah, Henry, Abraham and Abert died young. Samuel, born in 1841, married (1st) Louis (Lois) C. who died at age twenty-two, and (2nd)Jenette Catherine (1845-1911). They had six children: Lois, Katie J.,

Cora R, Samuel M., Lucy H., and Fannie. Samuel, son of John Warner, was executor of his father's will. He died June 15, 1915, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Cora Cowles of Wellington, and is buried in the Penfield Cemetery, along with his first and second wives.

Mary, born in 1845, married Marschal Gates. They had two sons who were mentioned in their grandfather's will, Orrin and Bert, as was their sister, Fanny Yocum. Mary died in 1889.

Priscilla, born in 1849, married Charles Edward Phillips, as above. She died in Medina, Ohio, March 20, 1915, and was buried beside her husband in Spring Grove Cemetery.

Fanny Heyd Warner died in Penfield June 16, 1884. John Warner died Feb. 25, 1901. They and the four infant children are buried in the Penfield cemetery.

Hulda Heyd (1833-1910), younger sister of Fanny, never married. She organized the "Hulda Heyd Reunion," which met each year for more than fifty years. This family gathering was the high point of the summer for many Lorain and Medina County families. Hulda's grave is in the Archibald Willard section (section 2) of the Greenwood Cemetery in Wellington.

WILLIAM EMMETT PHILLIPS (9)

WILLIAM EMMETT PHILLIPS, ninth in the genealogical line, was the son of Charles Edward and Priscilla Warner Phillips. He was born in Penfield, Lorain County, Ohio, February 2, 1871. He moved with his parents in 1875 to LaGrange, Ohio, where they lived for eight years and where he received his schooling. In 1883 the family moved to Medina and we find in the records of the Baptist Church there under date of March 1888 an entry showing Willie and Myrta joined the church by baptism.

July 4, 1891 William married Sarah Burkett, sister of his brother-in-law, Charles Burkett. At that time a young man was not "of age" until he was twenty-one. William's father had to sign the marriage license for his son. Nine sons were born to Sarah and William. The family lived in the Medina/Penfield/Wellington/Lodi area during the early years, where Will worked as farmer, teamster and sawyer. When the boys were young they worked summers on the onion farm in Lodi, owned by the Horr-Warner Company. This was before child labor laws were in effect and the boys worked for 4¢ an hour, weeding onions, ten hours a day, six days a week. After the adoption of the child labor laws, the onion farm went out of business.

The family moved to Elyria, Lorain County, Ohio, in 1917, living at 118 Elizabeth Street. William and his sons worked at the Willys-Overland plant in Elyria where the Willys-Knight and Willys-Overland automobiles were manufactured. The following is a clipping from the plant newspaper:

"ONE DESERTED

Father and Six Sons Are Engaged
in Producing Knight Engines

"Up until a week ago William E. Phillips and his seven sons were employed by the Willys Overland Company, but one of them, Delbert, left for pastures new the other day, so there are only seven of the eleven members of this big family on the company's payroll.

"There are two other Phillips boys, Alvin and Elmer, but they are too young to report for work as yet. In a few years they will undoubtedly follow in the footsteps of their sire and his stalwart sons, and if Delbert can be induced to return to the fold the Willys Overland company can boast of a baseball team recruited from one family.

"Only three of the boys are married, the others apparently being quite contented with the joys of single blessedness, but, of course, they are all young and may change their mind at some future date.

"Father and the boys are industrious workers and the type of mechanics which are an asset to any plant. Their names are William E., the father, Raymond, Clayton, Floyd, Ralph, Ernest and Hubert."

Later, after the Willys-Overland plant in Elyria was closed down, William worked as a machinist for the Perry Fay Company until his retirement. He was a member of the Church of Christ in Elyria. He died Sept. 10, 1940, of asthma and a heart ailment, and was buried in Brookdale Cemetery in Elyria.

Sarah Phillips was the youngest daughter of George and Sarah Bowles Burkett. Born in 1871, in Dover, England, she journeyed to America with her mother, her two sisters, Frances Elizabeth and Emily, and her youngest brother, George Edward, in November 1875. Her father and oldest brother, Charles, had come over in June to make preparation for the rest of the family to join them. George and Sarah settled in Medina County, Ohio,

William, Sarah and Ralph
P H I L L I P S
(about 1894)

where they lived the rest of their lives.

As we glean from his obituary and the Burkett Family Bible, George Burkett was born in Berkshire, England, 20 December 1826. The son of W. P. Burkett, he was orphaned at the age of eight, and made his own way from that time. September 19, 1852, he married Sarah Bowles, the only daughter of John and Frances Bowles who lived near Dover, County Kent, England. She was born 22 June 1835 and died in Medina County September 24, 1895. George and Sarah took up residence on County Road 19, south of Medina, in Lafayette township. He was a farmer. Why the Burketts chose to come to Medina County in Ohio is not known. It must be assumed that they had been in touch with friends or relatives in the area. There was a story told in the family that two brothers of either George or Sarah had come to the United States at an earlier time. They were to meet George and Charles in New York, but they did not appear and were never heard from again. There are several Burkett families in the Medina / Wadsworth area, though we have not found any kinship with them.

George Burkett became a naturalized citizen in Medina County, August 1, 1882. He died in Medina, at the home of his daughter Emily Hoff, February 14, 1901, and was buried in Spring Grove Cemetery beside his wife. "He was an honest and persevering man."--Obit.

Ruth Burkett Wiles, daughter of George Jr., recalled "Grandfather George Burkett as a wonderful companion for a four-year-old child; they enjoyed many walks together. Age had slowed his pace and he had a

slight limp, having been born with one leg a bit shorter than the other. The child and her grandfather were able to talk and search for Indian arrowheads at this slower gait."

George and Sarah Bowles Burkett had six children, all born in England:

Frances Elizabeth was born 17 August 1855; she died in March 1895, in Kansas. She married Charlie Lund of Kansas 4 July 1885. Their children were Cora B. and Jennie. Cora died in 1914, apparently in Kansas. Her body was shipped to Medina and buried in the cemetery plot with her grandparents, George and Sarah. Frances' husband died in June 1889. Nothing is known about Jennie. Clayton remembers his mother speaking fondly of Aunt Fanny. Apparently these two sisters, Fanny sixteen years older than Sarah, were very close. There is in the family a picture of a lovely young lady who is Frances.

Charles, born 5 February 1862, married Myrta Phillips (1869-1953), of Medina, October 2, 1889. She was the sister of William Phillips who married Sarah Burkett. Clayton recalls that "Uncle Charlie" was a mild mannered man, well liked. At the annual Hyde Reunion it was he who saw that the fire was made, the tables in place, etc. He died in March 1934.

Three children were born to Charles and Myrta:

Rolland Spray Burkett married Bertha M. Kernan June 15, 1913. They had six children, Bertha Louise (Weaver), Charles Kernan, Elvena Edra, Jeannette Ora (Barr), Roland Spray, Jr., and Betty Eileen (Roezel).

Neil Warner Burkett married (1st) Elva M. Hachenburg

Neil and Dorothy Burkett
with Grandfather Charles Edward Phillips

April 29, 1916, and (2nd) Edith Aber. Neil's children were Zelda May (Raines), Elnore Leora (Friedt), and John Hiram.

Dorothy Priscilla Burkett (1898-1970) married Glen M. Rogers (1893-1970), on 18 November 1914. They had five children: Elizabeth (Betty) May (Roshon), Evelyn Lucile, Anna Rosamond, Alice Mildred (Ott), and Lois Marian (Robinson). Evelyn and Anna died as infants.

George Edward, born 1 July 1868, died at the age of two months.

Emily who was born 28 March 1870, died July 24, 1939. She married Sherman Hoff (b. 1873; d. 1952) of Medina on March 14, 1895. Lawrence, their son, was born in 1897. He and his wife, Donna, had a son, Robert, who was born in 1923 and died in 1973. Emily and Sherman also had a baby girl, Joyce, who died at age 6 months. Lawrence and Donna are currently living in Florida.

George Edward was born 8 March 1874 and died July 11, 1949. He married Lillian Fretter (b. June 25, 1876; d. September 27, 1952) of Medina in 1896. They are buried in the Mallet Creek Cemetery in Medina County, Ohio. They were the parents of four children:

Ruth, the eldest daughter, was born March 10, 1897. She married Clayton Wiles (Feb. 28, 1893 - June 8, 1971) on January 1, 1918, just before he left for service in World War I. Ruth is presently living with her daughter, Virginia Grice, of Miamisburg, Ohio. She also has two sons, Vernon and Lloyd. The family celebrated Ruth's eighty-fifth birthday in 1982 with a card shower from friends and a gathering of her immediate family: children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Though she has been plagued by various illnesses since the death of her husband, she has plenty of spirit and has been able to meet her afflictions with considerable grace and courage. * See page 105.

Esther was born September 5, 1900. She married Floyd Baker (1894-1976). Their children were Richard, Russell and Carol. Esther died in June 1949.

Guy, born December 10, 1904, married Mae Boltz (b. September 3, 1912) of Coddingville, June 20, 1931. Guy and Mae are retired and live on Medina Road, near Akron, Ohio. Active in spite of physical ills, they enjoy their Senior Citizens group and the family of their daughter, Constance Harold. They celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1981.

Clare was born July 4, 1908. He married (1st) Marie Salmon, February 25, 1932. A son, Donny, died at the age of four. A second son, James Wolny, lives in Brownsburg, Indiana. Clare married a second wife, Lucille Strock, November 8, 1947. He died September 29, 1973.

Sarah, born 24 September 1871, married William Phillips as previously mentioned.

Sarah Burkett Phillips' father gave her a cow as a dowry when she was married. She was very proud of this fine animal and "Jenny" was a part of the family for many years. In a family with nine boys, Jenny's milk and milk products were a real asset. The day she was sold was a sad one indeed for this mother.

The Burketts collected many Indian arrowheads and other Indian artifacts over the years, and they were passed on to Sarah. One day a collector of such things

Sarah

Burkett

Age 16

Sarah Burkett Phillips and Son Ralph
with "Jennie"

stopped at the Phillips home to examine these treasures, asking to buy them. While Sarah went to the barn to consult with her husband about selling them, the visitor drove off with the two baskets of arrowheads! Little by little most of the rest of them disappeared -- either because Sarah gave them to interested people, or because some unscrupulous callers just took them. Her son Clayton has the last of the collection -- a skinner and a tomahawk.

Sarah loved the out-of-doors, and taught her boys much woods lore. She knew how to hunt and to trap and often served her family wild game. She had a considerable knowledge of herbs, and used them to doctor her children. And she loved trees and flowers, and instilled this love for nature in her boys. It was her custom to put two or three arrowheads in her pots of flowers around the house.

She encouraged her boys to spend their leisure time in the woods and along the creek and riverbeds. They often camped out overnight. She never worried about them until the family moved to Elyria -- a large city. Then she usually did not sleep until all were in and accounted for.

How this busy mother found time for china painting is a question, but she painted some very lovely pieces -- real treasures to her family. In her later years, after her sons were grown, her time was often filled with reading her Bible.

A lovely tribute to this mother comes from her son Clayton who remembers his Mother as the most Christian person he had ever known. She never used rough language

and was loving and giving and always concerned for her family.

She was a member of the Church of Christ in Elyria.

Sarah suffered a stroke on Christmas night, 1951, with several of her family members around her. She died December 31, and was buried beside her husband in Brookdale Cemetery in Elyria.

* As this book is going to press, we are sorry to report that Ruth Burkett Wiles died April 29, 1983, and was buried in Spring Grove Cemetery in Medina, Ohio, beside her husband, Clayton.

As previously mentioned, William and Sarah Burkett Phillips were the parents of nine boys:

A. Ralph Edward, born 25 May 1892 in York Township, Medina County, Ohio, married Selia Sheppard, daughter of Rev. Sheppard, of Medina, 7 October 1912. Ralph worked for the A. I. Root Company while he lived in Medina. Their children were Howard and Mary. Ralph disappeared following a visit to his parents in September, 1940. No further record of him is found.

B. Ernest B., born 18 May 1895 in York Township, married (1st) Viola Bensik of Lorain, Ohio; (2nd) Lela Gunderson of Lorain; and (3rd) Ellen Lucas of Lorain. He was a veteran of World War I. He retired as foreman from the Western Automatic Machine Screw Company of Elyria in 1960 where he was employed for thirty-five years. He died in Lorain November 21, 1964, of a heart attack, and is buried in Brookdale Cemetery, Elyria, Ohio. Ernest's wife, Ellen, is currently living in Los Angeles with her son, Ralph Lucas.

C. Adelbert was born 8 Feb. 1898 in York Township. He married Rosiland Matthews 29 Oct. 1923. She was born in England. They had one child, Harold. Delbert was, among other things, a machinist. He died in Cleveland, Ohio.

D. Hubert Sylvester was born in York Township 1 Oct. 1899. He married Gertie Wilmot, daughter of William and Eliza Williams Wilmot of Elyria 15 September 1934. Gertie was born in England September 18, 1901

Pvt.
Ernest
Phillips
1918

Delbert

Raymond

and died in Elyria October 15, 1961. She was a very lovable woman and was a favorite in the family. Their child, born in 1935, died at birth. March 14, 1964, Hubert married (2nd) Marguerite Merthe, (b. July 23, 1907), daughter of John C. and Katherine Horne Merthe of Elyria. Hubert was employed by the Bendix Westinghouse Air Brake Company of Elyria for many years. He died Feb. 18, 1965, of a heart ailment, and is buried in Brookdale Cemetery in Elyria. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Elyria. Marguerite continues to live in Elyria.

E. Raymond Willis, was born 29 May 1901, in Wellington, Lorain County, Ohio. May 29, 1923, he married Gertrude Wissinger (b. September 20, 1904), daughter of Lawrence and Florence Campbell Wissinger of Elyria. They had twelve children: Dorothy, Robert, Donald, William, Helen, Ray Jr., Jerry, Paul, James, Daniel, David and Richard. At this writing all twelve children are living. Raymond retired from the American Crucible Company of Lorain March 8, 1967. He lived with his family in Amherst, Ohio, for many years and was a member of the Four-Square Gospel Church there. He died of a heart attack 8 April, 1967, just thirty-one days after his retirement, and is buried in Ridge Hill Memorial Park, Amherst. Gertrude lives in a retirement complex in Amherst and is active in a Senior Citizen group and with her children and grandchildren.

F. Clayton George was born 29 September 1902 on Smith Road in Penfield Township, Lorain County, Ohio. Feb. 24, 1925 he married (1st) Catherine Leifer (b. Oct. 2 1908; d. July 13, 1953), daughter of Elizabeth Martin

Mother
Hubert, Delbert, Clayton
Raymond, Floyd

Floyd

Hubert and Gertie

and Everett Leifer of Elyria. They had three children: Shirley Regina, Margery Lou, and Clayton Dennis. On August 9, 1952, Clayton married (2nd) Margaret Minch (b. August 31, 1912). She was the daughter of Mrs. Mary Barton Minch of Elyria and Harmon J. Minch.

Clayton was a machinist, and a construction worker, at one time operating his own roofing business for several years. During World War II and for many years thereafter, he was Chief of Plant Protection at the Colson Corporation in Elyria. After retiring from that position he operated a blueberry farm in Brownhelm Township, Lorain County, for about ten years. He is a member of the First Methodist Church of Elyria.

He now resides on Peasley Road in Brownhelm Township in the retirement home he built himself at age sixty-five, overlooking a lovely wooded valley. There he pursues his hobbies of gardening, nature lore, welding and woodcraft, taking time out occasionally for travel. He had always said it was his dream to live in a house in the woods. Happily, that dream has come true!

G. Floyd Eugene, born 13 March 1904, in Wellington Township, Lorain County, married Louella Knipper (b. 1904; d. 1978), daughter of John and Margaret Knipper of North Ridgeville, Ohio, 24 September 1924. Their children were Harry E. and Jack E. Floyd died at the age of 27, January 26, 1931, at his home on Butternut Ridge in Carlisle Township, of diabetes and pneumonia. He is buried in Ridgelawn Cemetery, Elyria.

H. John Max (Alvin), born 14 Dec. 1905 in Wellington Township, married Mary E. Pryor (b. March 1, 1915) of Marion, Ohio, on February 27, 1943. They had one son, John. They lived the greater part of their lives in Marion, where he was active for many years in the Salvation Army. Though his birth record gives his name as John Max, he was called Alvin by his family. He had real artistic ability, painting many pictures and producing wood carvings of considerable quality. Alvin was given a disability retirement from the Quaker Oats Company of Marion. He died 5 March 1978, and is buried in Grand Prairie Cemetery, Rte. 423, north of Marion. His death certificate and gravestone read "John Alvin Phillips."

I. Elmer Earl, born 20 March 1910 in Lodi, Medina County, Ohio, married Alta Pixley (b. August 11, 1914), daughter of Oscar and Marian Vickery Pixley of Elyria, on May 4, 1935. They are parents of two sons: Kenneth Earl and Lauren James. Elmer is a 1931 graduate of Elyria High School. He retired as foreman from the Stanadyne Company (formerly the Western Automatic Machine Screw Company) of Elyria after forty-one years' service. He is an avid fisherman, a gardner, and is active in Senior Citizen groups. Elmer and Alta reside in the home they built at 218 Samuel Street, in Elyria, spending a part of each winter in Fort Myers, Florida. They have three grandchildren. Alta is adept at knitting, crocheting, sewing and quilting and has made many beautiful and useful items.

Alvin
as
a
young
man

Elmer
and
Alta
Phillips
1982

These nine men make up the tenth generation of this Phillips line. There has been a male born in each generation, preserving the Phillips name. While mention is made of the children of this tenth generation, we leave it to the succeeding generations to add their families to the genealogy so that it remains current.

It is hoped that this account of the lives of the forebears of this family will instill a sense of pride in the succeeding generations that their ancestors were, on the whole, good, hard-working, god-fearing people who advanced their positions in the new world, not through privilege and favor, but by giving of themselves to the tasks of building a great nation. They were sufficiently dedicated to the concept of a free and self-governing nation to place themselves under the law, and, with the support of their religious convictions, build well-rounded lives for themselves and their families.

APPENDIX

Will of Huldah Phillips
Letter written by Mary King Phillips
Ancestral line of Russell Allen
Another Day from The Clarkston (Mich.) News
Thursday, January 19, 1967
Thursday, March 9, 1 67
Page from Record Book of the Huldah Heyd Reunion

The Will of Huldah Phillips

Estate of Huldah Phillips, deceased.

(Died Aug. 15, 1851)

Oakland County

Probate File #936

I Huldah Phillips do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following viz:

I give and bequeath to my brother Bildad Phillips, all my landed property after paying Henry Pitts Phillips $200.00, James R. Phillips $200.00 and Edward Phillips $200.00 and all my debts. Henry Pitts Phillips is to have his money when the land is sold, and the other 2 boys when they become 21 years of age. My household furniture I will in the following manner, to Edward Phillips, 1 bed and bedding standing up chamber to Mariah McGunigle my bed and bedding as it stands and the best table cloth and to Margaret McGunigle my loom and all the apparatus belonging to it, 1 big kettle and flat irons, handiron and wash tub and to Hellen McGunigle 1 pair of blankets and to Theodore Phillips my cow and to Sylvester Phillips 2 of set of spoons and to Lydia Ann Phillips my bonnet and shawl and cloak and the remainder of my household furniture and corn on the ground to my brother Bildad Phillips and to my other brother and sisters as much as will satisfy the law.

This is my last will and testament in witness whereof I have set my hand and seal the 15th day of August 1851.

Huldah Phillips

Heirs names in Petition in above estate:
Bildad Phillips, brother
Some brothers and sisters of the deceased living in Massachusetts and one sister living in Ohio.

This is a letter written by Mary King Phillips (wife of Theodore Phillips) to Maude King Rockwell, her niece.

April 3d, 1920

Dear Niece,

I received your letter a few days ago and was so glad to get it, and it found us fairly well and able to get about a little and partake of our rations & as today is the Anniversary instead of tomorrow I thought it would be very appropriate to reply to your request today.

The wedding you wished me to tell you about was a pretty tame affair. Mrs. Beardslee called it a barefoot wedding, but I think she was mistaken there for I think we both wore shoes (or perhaps Theods might have been boots) I do not recall.

Well the morning was lovely overhead, but the roads terrible; the bottom had all dropped out & left mud hub deep almost all the way & Theod had a pretty good team & he picked up a double buggy of some of the neighbors & your Uncle George, Mary Hoyt, Theod & myself drove to Clarkston Depot to take train for Fenton which was the place selected for the great event; we waited at the Depot some time and finally the Agent said the train would be two hours late, and the outcome was a Freight Train came lumbering along with a stray car attached, and we boarded that car without luggage or grip AND IT BORE US away on our short wedding trip.

We reached Fenton and a Hotel and not a minister to be had & the consequence was a Justice, one Wm. P. Guest, was called in to perform the ceremony and don't you think after all Justice was done as neither of us (in all these years) have applied for Divorce.

I guess I must have been pretty frightened because I felt the tears start and just the last came splashing down (April Showers you see).

As for my bridal outfit, Trousseau (would you call it) I only had a new pair of gloves & a pr. of Elastics. My dress was a blue trimmed with black & a black lace Bertha which I had the Fall before never once thinking it would be my wedding dress.

We reached home in safety & went to keeping house in with Theods mother who was in very poor health at the

time and Theod was working the Farm and now as the wedding is disposed of I am going to tell you of some of the ups and downs of the first years of our married life. We lived in the House with Mother Phillips for three years, then as we could find no place where we could rent and take our stock decided to have an auction & sell the stock, which he did, with the notes on interest for a year, we moved our belongings to Cousin Henry Cross and rented a room there. It was the spring of 64 and as that was the summer Pa died I was home most of the time. Theod worked by the day and in the fall went to the Lumber Woods to work for Remick and as Ma was going to spend the winter in the East, I went with her to Sister Janes & Uncle George Crosses.

Theod came for me in the spring 1865 and he then bought the forty acre farm on the corner East of Welter Lake of a Mrs. Greekey (Maybe I haven't spelled that right) a Milliner of Pontiac who lived next door to the Presbyterian Church, bought for the sum of 500 dollars, some difference between prices then & now. I want to tell you of the house of logs & Maud the one where you were born was a palice by the side of ours, but it was the first real home we had ever owned & it looked good to me. Parlor, Dining Room, Kitchen & Bed all in one room, the floor had settled was more on the style of a butterbowl (but filled in with straw & put down my carpet & it did not look so bad. In the northwest corner was a tiny pantry about five foot square lighted by one pane of glass. In the opposite corner was a stairway with a-about as rickerty a pair of stairs as you ever saw leading to the loft or spare bed room & it was terribly spare I tell you. The remaining space was filled in by an immense fire place and stone hearth, a regular headquarters for rats.

There was rats in the kitchen
And rats on the stair
Rats in the pantry
But none in my hair

I used to wonder sometimes if we would have our noses in the morning, but by the noise it seemed there was scores of them, but if I struck a light to see them they was gone. We lived there with the Rats a year & a half & sold for 1600 that was our our first little

streak of luck, 1867, we then rented the place & afterward bought where Clarence now lives 60 acres for 2400. Later bought a wood lot on the north for 500 and sold 1200 worth of Timber from it that took us clear of debt & helped to build house and barn. We lived there until 1898 when we moved where we now live & gave up the Farm to Clarence, and this is the ups and downs, the struggles and scrimpings to make both ends meet. Now I am sure you will say this is quite a family history as well as a wedding history.

Monday 5 Apr. Town meeting day, I guess you will see I have jumped over a day, but yesterday I was so sick all day I could not write, and what a stormy day it was & I had company, Vet Phillips's widow & daughter Mrs. Barrows, Mrs. Wood another niece of Theods and Mell West's daughter a great niece, Clarence drove over just long enough to vote & right back could not get out with car & none of the women folk came.

Eight o'clock evening I am alone. Theod has been to the voting rooms all day & my company have all gone. Mr & Mrs. Rees have returned home to day from her daughters. Do you know she lost her husband. Rees's were called there two weeks ago today & he died soon after from paralysis of apoplexy.

Now Maud if I haven't tired you out and worn out all your patience I guess I had better say good by for the present. Kindest regard to you all.

Lovingly,

Aunt Mary

Come up for I am getting old. Two months from today I will be 83 if I live until that time.

Ancestral Line of Russell Allen

Taken from Ancestral Chart of Mrs. Grace Shepherd Mergen-Swartz of Fairbury, Nebraska, compiled and arranged by Mrs. Ella Glenn Shields of Chicago, Illinois, 1927.

Edward Allen, b. Ipswich ? ; d. 1696
married Sarah Kimball, daughter of Richard and Ursula Scott Kimball, b. Watertown, Mass. 1625; d. June 1690. They had 11 children.

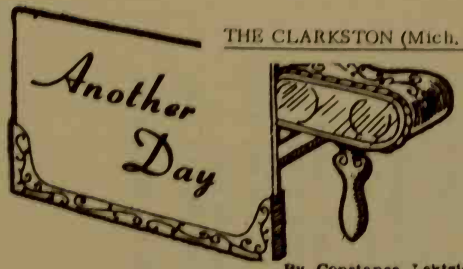
John Allen, son of Edward and Sarah Kimball Allen, b. Aug. 9, 1659; killed by Indians May 11, 1702. Married Elizabeth Pritchard Feb. 22, 1682. She was born ? , and killed by Indians May 11, 1702.

John Allen Sr., son of John and Elizabeth Pritchard Allen, born Jan. 14, 1684; d. Nov. 30, 1761, (killed by Indians). Married Abigail Severance, daughter of Ebenezer Severance. She was born April 27, 1696; d. Dec. 18, 1770.

John Allen Jr., son of John Sr. and Abigail Severance Allen, born May 2, 1719; died ? .
married Jemima Hastings, born 1720; died Jan. 1777. They had 8 children.

John Allen, son of John Jr. and Jemima Hastings Allen, born Nov. 24, 1752; died Northfield, Mass. after 1800.
married Jemima Janes, daughter of Ebenezer Janes and Sarah Field, July 6, 1771. Jemima was born May 16, 1757; died ? .

Russell Allen, son of John and Jemima Janes Allen, born Deerfield, Mass. Aug. 10, 1788; died April 25, 1860 at Moravia, New York.
married Lydia Ann Russell, born 1787; died Buchanan Michigan, Dec. 15, 1876.



By Constance Lektzian

The 90's were for the most part an era of solid prosperity. For most regions the early struggle of pioneering was over. There had been progress in the tools of farming and manufacture, but for women's work, her best aid was still an ambitious hired girl. The carved oak parlor organ was a sort of status symbol and one of the most popular songs that were sung when people gathered around was "After the Ball was Over." Money, commerce and property were mainly in the hands of the men and it was decidedly their world, but women's place at home was secure. And it was in this atmosphere, in 1892, that Mary Phillips picked up her pen on New Year's Day and began the first of a series of diaries that went on for thirty years.

These little canvas bound family. Years later, in 1916, when another epidemic swept the country, now called flu, she opened this older diary and wrote "—now it is just about as then, no end of sick folks."

There was a mill at Clintonville where some of the farmers took their corn to be ground into cattle feed; and when the potato crop was dug, wagons full of them were driven down Depot Road to be loaded into the freight cars for shipment into Pontiac and Detroit. When these days arrived, Mary hurried through her housework and with a bag of quilt patches under her arm, rode with Theod to do some visiting along the way. There was a network of friends and relatives who dropped in on each other for dinner or supper and, if the day was getting late, spent the night. With spare bedrooms and

MARY KING PHILLIPS

raising. It was in this year that Mary and Theod built a new barn. On the day of the raising, there were so many people present that eight women were on hand to help in the kitchen. The raising took place when the barn frames, built days before, were pulled or literally raised, into place. This took a lot of manpower. A barnraising was no small event in a farm families' life and was cause for a big celebration.

And women in those days had their own money—not much but it was usually all theirs. In fact, a man was considered either mighty poor or mighty mean if he were measured into farm wife's own household container. And of course, there was stick candy for the children. As with everyone else who arrived at the Phillips house around noon, Frank Walters stayed for dinner. When several days went by without someone dropping in, Mary complained bitterly about being lonely.

But life wasn't all work. During the winter, Theod found time to go to Parke Lake and watch as specially shod horses raced around a track cleared on the ice. Most of the people were just a generation removed from the East and still retained the custom of serving tea in the afternoon, and at least once a month, Mary came into Clarkston and sometime between dinner and supper, called on about four different friends. During the early summer, when the planting was done, wagon loads of friends set out on picnics at Mountain View Park near Maceday Lake or to Fisher's Woods on the Clintonville millpond (Lake Oakland).

Fall was a busy time for butchering and canning. There were quantities of pears and peaches that Mary was busy either picking or canning. She speaks of selling some of the fruit to Or-

books are crammed with the events and gossip that filled the life of this farm wife. She tells of tasks of which the homemaker today would have no conception--soap making, for instance and quilting. And as a farmer's wife, she kept a worried eye on the weather and never failed to note if it was too wet to plow or too cold to plant. At the beginning of 1892, she was very concerned with the fact that it stayed so cold—but not because of the work. An epidemic of grippe swept through Clarkston and the surrounding area. In a short pathetic entry, she wrote that not one family was spared and a little later on she begins to record the deaths—several a week among their friends and relatives including those of her own mother and brother. It's interesting to note that when she and Theod, her husband, went to settle her mother's funeral bill, she paid $70; and the doctor's bill, which had run for several months, totaled $2.25 for the entire

larders that bulged with cream and butter, chickens and hams, and the result of weekly baking, a few more people in the house were handled with ease.

One big household task was the laundry. There were kettles in which the clothes were boiled, scrubboards that every article was rubbed over and huge tubs that had to be filled from a pump and emptied by hand. One time a man came and demonstrated a washing machine, presumably a hand turned one since they had no electricity. Mary wasn't impressed and the man left without making a sale, not however, before he had had dinner.

While the work was unending, there seemed to exist in those times a sort of cushion of affection and companionship that kept people from being battered too hard by their circumstances. Someone was always showing up to help whenever there was a hard job of canning or quilting to be done. Or barn-

took his wife's butter and egg money. Several times a month, Mary drove to Pontiac, by sleigh or buggy, to drop off butter and eggs to a regular customer. She carefully recorded each transaction. The highest price for a pound of butter or a dozen eggs was twenty-two cents, the lowest about fourteen cents. She had a lively trade going with a small summer hotel near Depot Road called by the villagers simply as "Vliet's on the hill".

In the spring and summer there were the weekly visits of Frank Walter, who, as soon as the roads were passable, loaded a canvas topped wagon with goods from his store on Clarkston's Main Street and set out to visit the farm houses. He sold pots and pans, yard goods and thread and all the other staples and commodities that a housewife might need and would have used up during the winter. Sugar and flour, molasses and vinegar were all sold in the bulk and

samus Beardslee and of swapping peaches for baskets of whortleberries that a cousin brought her--today we call these huckleberries. Fall was the time when the men worked out their road taxes, plowing the edges of the road, raking it smooth and bringing in gravel if necessary. It was the job of the Road Commissioner to inspect this work and decide if it was sufficient to cover the taxes.

1892 was an election year and it was a snorter. Grover Cleveland, with one term as President, had been defeated and was fighting to go back to the White House after a four year absence. Theod and their 23 year old son Clarence attended rallies of both parties, one time going to Flint and not returning until four the next morning. Mary bore these absences with equanimity. Politiking was a man's job. Women didn't vote—they had all they could do to run their homes. She makes casual mention that she understood the Democrats had been victorious but nowhere did she even note the names of the candidates. It just wasn't within a woman's sphere. And in those times, that is where the majority of women were content to stay.

By Constance Lektzian

For 136 years the Phillips family and their descendants have lived in this area—some of them still on Pine Knob Road where Bildad Phillips first settled in 1831.

When he and his wife Jane Ann built their first cabin there, it was known as Sheshaba Plains. Bildad not only farmed but he went into the carpenter trade and taught school as well to help support their ten children.

The sixth child in the family, Theodore, was born in 1836. Despite all the deprivations and hardships of pioneer life, Theodore and his brothers and sisters had near his house where he made barrels and other items of his trade. When his daughter Mary and Theod were married he gave them a wedding gift that Mary cherished all her life—a washtub. It was so skillfully and carefully made that when the Phillips celebrated their golden wedding anniversary, it was still in use.

Mary's mother, Eliza King, had started keeping a diary shortly after she and her husband came to Michigan. In it she recorded all the daily happenings in the neighborhood—the births, deaths and marriages. She cial held some miles out of the village. Maybe that is

THEODORE PHILLIPS

one of the secrets of their longevity—when these pioneers wanted to do something or had to do something—they kept going in spite of illness or elements.

The Spanish-American War, which began and ended in 1898, called some of Clarkston's young men into service. The village watched the progress of the war with keen interest and celebrated

men were only able to clear space for one sleigh to go down the road at a time. Bad weather wasn't enough to stop social customs however. Almost every afternoon she put on her bonnet and went calling. After making about four or five stops, she got home in time to set the supper table for the half dozen or so people that called on her. It wasn't always for idle chatter—they helped each other quilt or make clothes, can or preserve and they seemed to sew a never ending stream of carpet strips. These were gregarious people—the lodge meetings, Ladies Aid, church suppers, socials, were all hugely attended. We can only surmise that they must have risen earlier than we do today to have gotten everything done.

These diaries written in the last years of the nineteenth century, show that in our village, for all the hardships, there was a pleasant, slow-paced friendly life.

a better than average childhood. Their parents did everything possible to give them a good education and a secure home.

Theod, as he was nicknamed, was only nineteen when his father passed away and for five years after that he ran the family farm for his mother. It was the custom in those times for sons to work for their parents until they reached their majority—there was a strong feeling that children owed those years to the family that often had to make many sacrifices in order to raise their sons and daughters. When he married at the age of 24, he still stayed on the family farm for three more years. Eventually he bought out the other heirs and owned the Phillips homestead plus a great deal more acreage.

William King, father-in-law of Theod, was a farmer by occupation but as a young boy he had been apprenticed to a cooper. When he came to Independence in 1834, he set up a cooper shop

kept track of the high school graduates, the weather, crop failures, social gatherings—everything in fact that made up the life of these early settlers. When she died in 1892, Mary Phillips took over the task until her death in 1923, she never missed a day writing down the events of Clarkston.

In 1898, Mary and Theod moved into the village, leaving the farm to the management of their son Clarence and his wife Virginia. And it is at this point that these diaries give us a clear glimpse of Clarkston at the turn of the century. Not that Mary had ever cut herself off from the social life in the village. There were times when she was quite sickly, when the unending work depleted her strength. She recorded one day of being so ill with a cold that she spent the entire time in bed yet the next evening she and her husband joined a party of four sleigh-loads of people who went bucketing over the snowy March roads to a so-

every victory. Somewhere in the village was a cannon that was shot off noisily with dozens of firecrackers and rockets. Mary complained that after the victory at Santiago, it was almost midnight before things quieted down so people could sleep.

Early 1899 had weather similiar to what we have now—Mary wrote that the snow was so high that the

Page from the Record Book of the Hulda Heyd Reunion:

Henry Heyd was born September, 1787; died June 10, 1856, aged 69 yr., 9 mo.
Mary Heyd was born 1789; died August 26, 1872, aged 83 yr., 3 mo., 21 days

They had 15 children:

Abraham -- not married
David married Barbara Shank (sister of Michael Shank)
John married Lucinda Lee
George married Mary Boice
Henry, Jr. married Sally Johnson
Kate married Danial Kindig
Barbara married Thomas White
Maria married Jerry Fritz
Betsy married Michael Shank
Matilda married Peter Hunger
Leah married ? Coolman
Susan married Jared Hoard
Fanny married D. Huffstoter & John Warner
Nancy married John Stottler
Hulda never married

Fanny & D. Huffstoter had one child, David.
She was married to John Warner and had 7 children,
Sarah -- died Nov. 1862
Henry)
Abraham) died in infancy
Abert)
Samual
Priscilla married Charles Phillips
Mary married Marchal Gates

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DEDHAM, MASS.
DIGHTON, MASS.
EASTON, MASS.
LORAIN COUNTY, OHIO
MEDINA COUNTY, OHIO
WEYMOUTH, MASS.

RECORD OF DEEDS:
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CAYUGA COUNTY, NEW YORK
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SUFFOLK COUNTY, MASS.
TIOGA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

PENSION APPLICATIONS OF:
PALATIAH PHILLIPS
SPENCER PHILLIPS
SYLVESTER PHILLIPS

BAPTIST CHURCH RECORDS: ASHFIELD, MASS.
LAGRANGE, OHIO
MEDINA, OHIO
PENFIELD, OHIO

UNITED STATES CENSUS

FAMILY RECORDS: PHILLIPS FAMILY
ALLEN FAMILY
BURKETT FAMILY
ODELL FAMILY

INDIVIDUALS: MRS. J. W. CROSBY, Moravia, New York
EDNA DALENBERG, Niles, Michigan
IONA ROBBINS, New London, Ohio
HENRY TIMMANS, Huron County Historian

GRAVESTONE RECORDS: MASSACHUSETTS, NEW YORK, OHIO, MICHIGAN

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